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THE  
HISTORY OF NORWAY:

COMPRISING A

MINUTE ACCOUNT OF ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT, TOWN  
OFFICERS, THE ANNUAL EXPENDITURES OF THE TOWN, WITH  
OTHER STATISTICAL MATTERS;

INTERSPERSED WITH

HISTORICAL SKETCHES,

NARRATIVE AND ANECDOTE, AND OCCASIONAL REMARKS  
BY THE AUTHOR.

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BY DAVID NOYES.

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NORWAY:  
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## P R E F A C E .

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I suppose I must write a preface before I enter *one step* on my work, and tell *why* I am going to write a book, and *what* I am going to write about. The *why* is because many of our good citizens wish for such a work ; but the *what* is more than I can tell, as I may feel very differently to-morrow from what I do to-day ; and therefore I am unable to tell in what kind of a channel my ideas may take a notion to flow. But first, I intend to give as minute an account of the early settlement of the town as the best data in my possession will enable me to do ; and also of the expenditures of the town for the benefit of its inhabitants ; the immigration of new settlers since the commencement of the settlement ; the accidents, and remarkable incidents, that have taken place ; historical sketches, narrative and anecdote, occasionally interspersed with *just such ideas* as happen to run in my noddle while writing. I shall not attempt to tell a good story, or to crack a good joke, for the sake of producing a good hearty laugh ; for such things always hit somewhere ; but I am bound to get along without running against anybody, if I can help it. I intend to tell the *truth* as far as I tell *anything* : I shall “naught extenuate, nor set down aught in malice,” and intend to wholly avoid bringing any “railing accusation” against any one. I humbly acknowledge the many kindnesses received from different individuals in furnishing me with facts

and materials, as they were able, for the commencement and prosecution of the work: among which persons are first, Samuel Ames, (he has almost been my standing register about the first settlement,) and also Benjamin Flint, Aaron Wilkins, Darius Holt, Nathaniel Bennett, Joel Frost, John Pike, Daniel Knight, Jr., and Daniel Stevens; and among the females are the widow Olive Stevens, Mrs. Ruth Lovejoy, Mrs. Mary Stevens, the wife of Jonas Stevens, and Mrs. Mary Ordway, the wife of Amos Ordway;—as they were the *children* of the *very first settlers*, and were old enough to retain their early impressions about matters and things of those early times. Mrs. Mercy A. Whitman has my warmest thanks for her carefully-preserved record of the deaths in the town since 1820. The town authorities are kindly thanked for the use of the Selectmen's books; and the town Clerk for his records since 1843, and the same to the Treasurer.

The several religious societies will accept my thanks for their aid generously furnished me, and with my warm thanks, a warmer wish, that our Heavenly Father may always continue to smile propitiously on them, and fit them, *more than ever*, for the full enjoyment of a blessed immortality.

To the officers of the Militia (I can't find any now, but I have found the old books) I present my thanks for the old records; and all the officers of the Militia are entitled to much praise for the correctness with which the books have been kept. To be sure, we all desire to see the time "when men shall learn war no more," but perhaps it may be well to keep the "tools ready" for fear they may be wanted.

And this scrawl I am going to call my preface to the following work, which I shall humbly inscribe to the good citizens of Norway, hoping it will afford them as much *pleasure* in reading, as it has afforded me *labor* in writing. It is possible that some things are noted which some may not desire; and that other things are omitted which some would like to see; but I can't help that; I never bargained to suit

everybody. Doubtless there are some mistakes in regard to dates, but instead of wondering at a few mistakes, it should be a greater wonder that there are not more; for on an examination of the work, it will be readily seen that I have had a great many "irons in the fire" at the same time. Many of the new immigrants probably came into the town some months, and possibly a year before they are named, as I name them when they appear on the tax-books. Many of the old settlers' sons, perhaps, do not appear in the year when they arrived at 21 years of age, as many of them, possibly, went off to work, out of town, for a year and perhaps several years; and in some instances they may be classed among the new immigrants; but I hope such trivial matters will give no unpleasant feelings to any one, or in any degree detract from the merits or usefulness of the work. The town has kindly afforded me a shelter and a home for nearly half a century; so long, that it seems to me that I have become a "part and parcel" of the same: and should it ever be so ordained, in Providence, that I should leave the place, I know I should feel a "longing for the flesh-pots" of old Norway, for "with all thy faults I love thee still."

The citizens of Norway will please to accept my thanks for the many favors received during a long series of years, and should you be pleased to liberally patronize the present work, it will greatly serve to smooth the down-hill of life, which I am fast descending, and will be productive of the lasting gratitude of

Your most obedient and humble servant,

DAVID NOYES.



## HISTORY OF NORWAY.

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THE town of Norway is made up of the following tracts, or grants of land, viz: the tract of land formerly known as Rustfield, purchased by Henry Rust, of Salem, Massachusetts, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in December, 1787, estimated at six thousand acres; the Lee Grant, estimated at six thousand acres exclusive of water; the Cummings Gore, containing about three thousand and six hundred acres; and three tiers of lots taken from the easterly side of the town of Waterford, viz: a strip one mile and a half wide, and seven miles long, estimated to contain six thousand seven hundred and twenty acres; and another tract called the "Gore," or "Rust's Gore," lying south of the Waterford three tiers, and bordering on the northerly line of Otisfield, containing about seventeen hundred acres more or less, making in the whole a trifle over twenty-four thousand acres; but at that time it was rather a custom to make quite liberal measure in eastern lands, therefore we may safely calculate the quantity to be, at least, twenty-five thousand acres, or more. The Waterford three tiers, and the "Rust Gore," last described, lying south of the three tiers, form the westerly side of the town, making the whole length eight miles and one hundred and thirty-eight rods. The Lee Grant lies in the northeast corner of the town, the Cummings Gore between the Lee Grant and the northerly part of the Waterford three

tiers, and that part called Rustfield lies south of the Lee Grant and the Cummings Gore, being the southerly part of what is now called the town of Norway.

The Cummings Gore proper, or what is now known as the Cummings Gore, did not extend south any farther than the southerly line of the old Major Cummings farm, now owned by Amos T. Holt; but there is a gore of land lying south of the Cummings Gore, extending from the southerly line of the Cummings Gore proper about two hundred and eighty rods on the Lee line to the northerly line of Rustfield, and about one hundred and ninety rods on the easterly line of the Waterford three tiers, and one mile and a half east and west, which was at first in dispute between Henry Rust, the proprietor of Rustfield, and Jonathan Cummings, the proprietor of the Cummings Gore; but by an arrangement between the parties the land was held by the said Cummings. I have been thus minute in pointing out the different tracts and pieces of land now composing the town of Norway, in order that the reader, and those interested in the first settlement, may the better know where the early settlers commenced operations when they came into the wilderness to found a home for themselves and posterity.

1786.—This year five individuals, viz: Joseph Stevens, Jonas Stevens, Jeremiah Hobbs, Amos Hobbs, and George Lessley, from the town of Gray, came into the place, and felled trees on the tract called Rustfield, excepting Jeremiah Hobbs, who commenced on the lot easterly of where the Congregational meeting-house now stands, and then supposed to be within the limits of what was afterwards called Rustfield; George Lessley commenced on what has since been known as the Isaiah Hall farm, now owned and occupied by William Frost, 3d, and brothers; Amos Hobbs commenced on the farm where his youngest son, Amos Hobbs, now lives; Joseph Stevens commenced where his youngest son, Simon Stevens, now lives; and Jonas Stevens commenced on the



place now owned by Amos F. Noyes and Lorenzo D. Hobbs.

During the first summer and fall, these hardy pioneers of the wilderness made what preparations they were able to make, in order to move their families the ensuing spring and summer; and from such accounts as the writer can gather, Joseph Stevens built a small frame house early in the spring of 1787, sixteen feet by twenty; he split out pine rift clapboards, and clapboarded on the studs, and long-shingled the roof, built a stone fire-place high enough on which to lay a wooden mantle-piece, and after a short time topped out the chimney by what used to be called catting: that is, by laying up split sticks, cob-house fashion, in clay mortar, mixed with straw, chopped fine, to make it adhere more strongly to the sticks. After getting fairly into their new settlement the other four built themselves houses of the same size and construction. They split out basswood plank and hewed them for a floor, and each one brought a board from a mill in Paris, on Stony brook, called Jackson's Mill, to make an outside door. Some of them had a board window which they could take down in fair weather, and put up in foul, cold weather; and some of them say the most stylish had a paper window made of white paper well coated with oil, perhaps goose oil. At the time these first settlers were falling trees, Samuel Ames (now living in Norway Village—then living in Paris, and tending the first grist-mill built in that town, on Stony brook—and he says he ground the first grist in that mill,) came over to what was afterwards called Rustfield, and went up the pond, called the great Pennessewassee, and visited them while falling their first trees. Previous to moving into the wilderness, these first settlers moved the principal part of their families into what is now called Paris, (incorporated in 1793) and into Shepherdsfield, now Hebron and Oxford, that they might be nearer their contemplated place of location.

1787.—In the spring of this year, either the last of April

or first of May, Joseph Stevens moved his family, consisting of himself, his wife and four children, Daniel, Jonas, Amy and Aphia, (Jonas did not come in at that time, he remaining at Gray with his grandfather) into his new habitation. They came from their temporary abode to the foot of the pond, and then proceeded up the pond in a boat to nearly opposite where he had built his rude habitation; but it being cloudy, and night coming on sooner than they expected, and having by accident got their tinder and fire-works wet, they were unable to strike a light; and having no other guide than a spotted line, they were compelled to take up their first night's lodging in the woods by the warmest side of a large tree; and in the morning they cheerfully proceeded to their future home. The writer has often heard Mrs. Stevens, *Aunt Betty*, as we used to call her, say that she had a *grand* night's sleep, and felt very thankful when they reached their camp, or house.

George Lessley moved in the next day after Joseph Stevens, and moved into Stevens' house; and in a few weeks after, say the first of June, Amos Hobbs moved into the same house, making only three families in one house, sixteen feet by twenty. When Amos Hobbs moved in, they came to the foot of the pond at the westerly end of what we now know as Ames' point, about one hundred rods westerly of the mill, on the northerly side of the stream, where they expected Joseph Stevens would meet them with a boat; but it being very windy, he did not dare to venture the voyage; and after waiting awhile, Mr. Hobbs went round by the southerly end of the pond up to Mr. Stevens', and they then came down with the boat, took the family aboard, and proceeded to their habitation, where they all arrived in safety. I have lately heard a description of their stop on the point, while waiting for the boat nearly half a day, from Mrs. Jonas Stevens, who was the oldest child of Amos Hobbs' family, and she said *that* was the first time she ever saw her mother cry. She then had an infant in her arms, born the March

previous, (the infant was Robinson Hobbs) and the mosquitoes and black flies were so numerous that it seemed as though they should be devoured. In the intermediate time between the moving in of Joseph Stevens and Amos Hobbs, Jonas Stevens, in the fore part of May, came in with his family in about the same manner; and Jeremiah Hobbs moved his family in September following.

Perhaps I may as well here mention how the first settlers became acquainted with the place, previous to their making a settlement. After the close of the revolutionary war, many old, middle-aged, and young men found themselves *poor*, and in rather a poor situation to support their families, and with little or nothing to purchase a farm, or even a piece of land wherewith to make a permanent home for themselves and families. A Mr. James Stinchfield, and Jonas Stevens, (who had been a soldier through nearly all the war) and some others, came into the place on a hunting excursion around the great Pennessewassee pond, and other ponds and streams in the vicinity; and seeing the beautiful growth of wood and timber, and the indications of a fertile soil, came to the conclusion that, with the smiles of Providence, they could locate themselves in this place, then a howling wilderness, and thus secure a permanent home for themselves and families; and it appears by subsequent events that their manly exertions were ultimately crowned with signal success.

During the first two years of the early settlement there was no mill in the place, and the settlers were obliged to go to Paris to Jackson's mill on Stony brook, which was but a poor, rude apology for a mill, or to what is now called Otisfield to what has since been called Ray's mill, where they sometimes in the winter went on snow-shoes, with a bushel or two on a hand-sled. But to remedy this inconvenience, they took a piece of a large hardwood log, about two feet long, and dug out a cavity in one end with what they used for a tapping iron, (an article for tapping maple trees for the purpose of

making maple sugar) and then burnt out the cavity as smooth as possible, and in this pounded their corn into what they called samp or hominy; from that material they made what the boys and girls of that day called samp porridge, and ate it in various ways, and considered it very good, too.

In the spring after first moving in, Jeremiah Hobbs, who had a large family of children, say eight in number, had the misfortune to lose his only cow, which they calculated would do much towards the support of his family. This was a serious loss at that time, and in such circumstances; and either that spring or the next, Mr. Lessley met with a similar misfortune; but Mrs. Lessley, like a true woman, preserved the calf by feeding it with gruel, and a little milk obtained from her few, but friendly neighbors. Amos Hobbs also met with a serious loss about this time; he had obtained half a bushel of corn, which he carried to the Stony brook mill, and had to leave it; when he went for it, the meal, bag and all, was gone—probably to feed some other hungry family. This, although very trivial, was a severe loss to him and family in such a time of privation, and almost starvation. Before the new crop of grain could be got off to make bread of, Mrs. Lessley shelled out wheat by hand and boiled it for food for herself and family. Let the mothers of the present day render thanks to a kind Providence, that they are not reduced to such straits to feed their families.

In the summer of 1787, William Parsons, John Parsons, and Benjamin Herring, and also Dudley Pike, came into Rustfield, and felled trees in order for a settlement, commencing on the farms where they afterwards lived and died. The writer has good reason to believe, from sufficient authority, that William Parsons and John Parsons came into Rustfield the first of June, 1786, and looked out their respective lots, and actually commenced falling trees on the third day of June; the first tree cut down was a large hemlock on John Parsons' lot, and the roots of that tree are said to be still in

their primitive place—at least they were till since his death, which took place December 6, 1847, aged 85 years. A short time before his death, his son, George W. Parsons, was ploughing in the field where the old stump had stood from the time the first tree in the place was felled, and the old gentleman seeing that the old roots were about to be torn from their bed, entreated his son to spare them while he remained on the earth, and they were accordingly sacredly preserved. They felled but a small opening in 1786, enlarged it the next year, and moved their families as follows.

1788.—This year Dudley Pike moved his family into Rustfield, March 26, and had scarcely got into his humble habitation, when the three other pioneers, William Parsons, John Parsons, and Benjamin Herring, arrived at his house, that is, at night on the 27th of March; and the road not being quite as good as at this time, they put up with him for the night, and the next day proceeded to their own habitations, which were nothing but humble log houses. About this time, Lemuel Shed and a Mr. Jonathan Stickney commenced on two adjoining lots on the Waterford plantation, which is now the Waterford three tiers; Stickney on the farm where Benjamin Flint now lives, and Shed where John S. Shed now lives, which is on the Waterford three tiers, and now on the old County road leading from Swift's Corner to Waterford. Shed camped with Stickney on the Flint farm.

Lemuel Shed was a soldier through about all the revolutionary war, and was, as he has often told the writer, one of Washington's life-guards; and previous to the taking of Burgoyne, he was sent from Washington's head-quarters with an express to General Gates. He had to pass through a portion of country thickly infested with tories, and run many risks and hair-breadth escapes; finally he had to leap from his horse and abandon him, and make his escape the best way he could—which he did by taking shelter behind a sheet of water which fell over a cataract, leaving an open space behind the



water ; and after remaining until the search for him was over, pursued his way on foot, and delivered his message according to orders ; and it is possible that the subsequent important victory might, in some measure, depend on the advices carried by this faithful soldier.

Previous to the building of the mills, Samuel Ames built him a camp, about on the spot where the mill-shed now stands, which served for a shelter while at work on the mill. This was the first shelter, or camp, built in what is now Norway Village ; it was built by putting down in the ground three posts of a proper height, and cutting off a birch tree at the same height for the fourth post, and covered with bark.

On the 17th day of October, 1787, Sarah Stevens, the daughter of Jonas Stevens, was born. She was the first white child born in the place, and the eighth child of the family, and is now the wife of Jonathan Edwards, of Otisfield. The first male child born in the place, was Joseph Stevens, the son of Joseph Stevens, who was born May 31st, 1788. Ebenezer Hobbs, the son of Amos Hobbs, was the next child born in the place ; he was born August 24th, 1789. Nathan Noble came into the place probably in the spring, this year, and had a child born the same year, which died in infancy.

Nathaniel Stevens felled trees in the same year that his brothers, Joseph and Jonas, moved into the place, and moved his family in 1788. His lot was westerly of Jeremiah Hobbs' lot, and his first habitation was about northwesterly of where the meeting-house now stands. Soon after he moved in, he had the misfortune to get his leg broken while falling trees, and his wife and three small children were left in a very destitute condition ; as the few new settlers had scarcely enough for their own families, and provisions had to be brought from a considerable distance, even if these new settlers had the wherewith to pay for the same. Mrs. Stevens about this time was reduced to such necessity for food, that she felt

herself justified in digging up a few potatoes from the hills where they had been recently planted by her neighbor, Mr. Jeremiah Hobbs, in order to feed her hungry children. Although Mr. Stevens was so unfortunate, he was not forsaken by his few neighbors, who generously turned out and felled trees for him, and assisted in taking care of the little crop he had put into the ground; and although Mrs. Stevens dug up her neighbor's potatoes, let no one think amiss of her moral character on that account, as all her neighbors can not speak otherwise than *well* of her through a long life.

In 1789, Capt. Henry Rust, the proprietor of Rustfield, commenced building a grist and saw-mill on the same site now improved for similar mills at the upper end of Norway Village. The grist-mill was completed in October, 1789, (the saw and grist-mills were raised in June) and Samuel Ames ground the first grist ever ground in the place, and continued to tend the same mill for more than forty years, and probably for forty-five years, after.

Thomas Cowen, who came from Paris, tended the saw-mill, under the superintendence of Mr. Ames, after it was ready to run, about two or three years. He built a little hut nearly opposite the saw-mill, and when he left the mill he went on to a piece of land, now owned by H. G. Cole, north of the old Peter Buck farm, and subsequently removed to Paris. Reuben Hubbard afterwards built the two story house now standing on the place.

While Capt. Rust was building the mills, he employed the new settlers on his plantation to work for him as much as they wished, allowing them half a dollar per day towards their land, which he sold to them for half a dollar per acre; thus every day's work paid for an acre of land. As a landholder, Capt. Rust performed many acts of kindness to the settlers on his land, not only by selling his land very cheap, but in trying to add otherwise to their comforts and conveniences. Among other things, he brought down from Salem

quite a lot of small six-squared windows of six by eight glass, which he distributed among the settlers, a window or two to each; and this was a valuable present to them, as this was the first glass known in the place.

Peter Everett came into the place in this year, and commenced on the east end of the Esquire Eastman farm, and supposed that it was on the Rust Grant at the time of building a small frame house, where he lived a few years; and after Rust and Cummings settled the question of title to that tract of land, and it being held by Cummings, Mr. Rust gave Mr. Everett a lot of land lying west of William Parsons' lot, where he moved his house, and lived till his death, which took place March 27, 1821. When Mr. Everett lived on the Esquire Eastman lot, his wife kept a little school for the instruction of the small children in the neighborhood. This school she kept in her own house, and was the first school of any description ever kept in the place.

This year Darius Holt and Nathan Foster came down—Holt from Andover, and Foster from Tewksbury, Mass.—to work for Jonathan Cummings, the proprietor of the Cummings Gore, and commenced where his son Jonathan Cummings afterwards lived and died. They were here at the raising of the mills in June, 1789. Nathan Foster afterwards purchased the tier of lots north of the Cummings farm, and afterwards lived and died on the same. Darius Holt afterwards bargained for the seventh tier of lots on the Cummings Gore, and built a small frame house where Daniel Town now lives, and the house built by Holt makes a part of said Town's house. Mr. Holt lived at what was afterwards called Fuller's Corner about four years, and then moved into Waterford plantation, near Lemuel Shed's lot.

This year Amos Upton came down from Reading, Mass., and felled trees on the lot south of Fuller's Corner, and moved his family in Sept., 1790. Nathan Noble moved his family into Amos Hobbs' house in the spring of 1789, and



built a small frame house where he afterwards lived, in the course of the summer following. Benjamin Witt came down with Capt. Rust subsequent to the erection of the mills, and was the first blacksmith that ever hammered iron in what is now called Norway.

Phinchas Whitney, about this time, commenced on the hill westerly of Lemuel Shed, on the Waterford plantation, and came from Harvard, Mass. He was a soldier in the revolutionary war, and was in the battle of Bunker Hill, and Amos Upton was likewise in that memorable battle; they were both pensioners, and also Lemuel Shed, Darius Holt, Jonas Stevens, Samuel Ames, Daniel Knight, Stephen Curtis, Joseph Gammon, James Packard, Joel Stevens, John Needham, and Jacob Frost.

Mr. Ames moved into Rustfield the year before the mills were built, and commenced on a piece of land where Ephraim Briggs now lives, and raised corn one year on that place; he afterwards sold out to a Moses Twitchell, and afterwards lived near the mill which he tended. When he moved in from Paris, as his oldest daughter says, he had three children, and the way he conveyed his family would look rather picturesque at the present day. He procured a steady horse, and put a sack, like a pair of panniers, across the saddle; he then put the two youngest, one in each end, with the oldest on the horse's back, holding it on in the rough places, and led the horse himself; his wife traveled on foot, carrying some necessary articles in her hands; and thus they ascended what is now called Pike's hill to their new habitation. Mr. Ames built the first house in Norway Village—a frame house, eighteen feet by thirty-six; some twenty-five years ago the house was moved up about one mile north of the Village, and is now occupied by Elijah Jordan. The next house built in the Village was near the site of Levi Whitman's house, and built by William Gardner, who afterwards commenced on the Lee Grant above Nathaniel Bennett's. In 1790 Daniel

Knight moved from Paris, and went into the house with William Gardner, and lived with him a short time; he then returned to Paris, remained one winter, and then came back again, and commenced on the place now owned by Alanson M. Dunham, where he lived about four years; then he sold out his betterments to Jeremiah Witham, from New Gloucester, and began on land on the southerly end of North pond. Isaac Cummings soon bought out Mr. Gardner, and moved on the same lot, and afterwards sold his betterments to Josiah Bartlett, about 1802. The farm has had many different owners, and is now owned by Joshua Richardson, Esq., of Portland.

Jonathan Cummings, the proprietor of Cummings Gore, in order to forward a beginning for a farm for his son, Amos Cummings, hired a few acres of trees felled on the third tier of lots on said Gore, (the same now owned by Thomas Melzcard,) and hired Daniel Knight and Isaac Cummings to fall the first trees that were cut down on that farm; and he paid to each of them a new axe and a cow-bell, (he was a blacksmith, and made such things himself,) both articles being very necessary to the new settlers—the axe to cut down the forest, and the bell to put on the old cow so that the boys could find her in the woods, as they had no pastures until they got them cleared and fenced. Mr. Knight is still living, aged 92.

In 1790 Anthony Bennett and Nathaniel Bennett, twin brothers, came from New Gloucester, and felled trees on the lots where they afterwards continued to live—Anthony till the time of his death, and Nathaniel is still living on his first premises. This year, or the year before, Joshua Smith came into Rustfield, from New Gloucester, and commenced on the place now owned by Jacob Bradbury, and formerly by his father, Joseph Bradbury, who purchased of Smith. The year after Mr. Smith felled his first trees, he brought about one bushel of the seed-ends and eyes of potatoes from New Gloucester on his back, and planted them on burnt ground,

and raised fifty bushels of potatoes from the same. I believe the account, having heard it from his own mouth.

Anthony Bennett moved his family into Rustfield in 1791, and Nathaniel in 1793. About this time Elisha Cummings purchased the lot east of Benjamin Witt's farm, and began on it, and about five years after sold the east half of the same to John Bird, who commenced making a farm, and continues to live on it at this time. Zebedee Perry came in this year from Paris, and commenced on the lot south of Nathan Noble's lot. When he moved from Paris he had one child, John Perry, who lives on the old homestead farm, but has erected buildings on a different part of the lot.

This year was made memorable to the settlers on account of the first death in the place. This was a female child of Nathaniel Stevens, aged about five years. During this year, also, another very sudden death occurred. Mr. Daniel Cary had commenced on the Lee Grant, near where Alanson M. Dunham now lives, or where Jacob Tubbs afterwards purchased. He had been at work for Capt. Rust, and was returning home in the evening, and arriving at the outlet of the pond, near where the Crockett bridge now stands, expected to find a boat on the south side of the stream; but some person crossed over the stream during the day, and had left the boat on the other side, and he feeling anxious to reach home, attempted to swim over, and when more than half across, sank and drowned, unknown to any person. The next day Jonas Stevens went down the pond in his boat to mill, and picked up a hat on the water near the outlet of the pond, and taking it down to the mill, the hat was shown to Mr. Ames, who at once knew it to be Cary's hat. Mr. Ames with some others immediately returned with Mr. Stevens, and soon found the body, which was brought down to the mill, and thence to Capt. Rust's house on the hill, (then occupied in part by Benjamin Witt) and in due time was properly interred.

Benjamin Witt after living awhile at, or near the mills, purchased the lot on which Joseph Small afterwards lived, and erected the barn now standing on the farm; and after living there a few years, purchased a lot east of Nathaniel Bennett's lot, and commenced a farm where he afterwards lived and died; and his son Benjamin Witt still lives on the same farm.

This year Peter Buck, who had a short time before come from Worcester, Mass., to Paris, moved into Rustfield, about half a mile north of the mill; and he was the first shoemaker in the place. The same farm, or the southerly half of the same, is now occupied by his son, Austin Buck. James Kettle was the first trader that ever kept goods for sale, as a store-keeper, in the place, and kept his goods in Samuel Ames' house—that is, in one room of the same. He was called a very honest, fair trader, which is a pretty good encomium on his character as a man. And while speaking of traders, I will continue the subject through the infantile years of the settlement. William Reed was the next trader, (we did not have merchants in those days) and commenced trade in a little house, formerly called the saw-mill house, which stood about south of, or opposite the saw-mill, and near where Cowen's cabin once stood. He traded here a few years, and probably commenced about 1792. After some years he built a two-story store, where he traded for many years. William Hobbs, the second son of Jeremiah Hobbs, was the third trader in the town. He commenced near his father's farm, a little east of the Congregational meeting-house, where he continued to trade occasionally till his death, which occurred in Feb., 1843. Bailey Bodwell, who came from Methuen, Mass., built the first two-story house in what is now Norway Village, viz., the house lately occupied by Ichabod Bartlett, Esq.; and also put up the first clothier's works in the place on the privilege now occupied by H. G. Cole as a clothier's and carding establishment. He also built the first saw-mill

at the Steep Falls, and the first clothier's works at that place. The first tannery set up in this place was the Rust tan-yard, and was put in operation by William Reed, under Capt. Rust. Jacob Frost, Jr., afterwards superintended the yard, and a few years later Joseph Shackley succeeded him, and lived in the tan-yard house for many years. The house now owned by John Deering was the third two-story house erected in the Village, about 1803, and moved into by John Ordway, the builder, in 1804. There was a two-story house built about the same time where Esquire Whitney's house now stands, known as the Smith house, it being built by one Samuel Smith, but was many years after pulled down by Increase Robinson, who built the house now occupied by William C. Whitney, Esq. The next two-story house, in the order of building, was Luther Farrar's, Esq.—now occupied by Levi Whitman, Esq.—built in 1806. Capt. Henry Rust, Jr., built a large two-story house about the same time; also Levi Bartlett built the two-story house in which he afterwards lived till his death, which took place in the summer of 1818; his two youngest children also died in a few days after. In 1807, William Reed built the two-story house now occupied by E. F. Beal. A part of the Elm House was built for a store by Joshua Smith, in 1806, and afterwards an addition was made to it in order to make a dwelling house and store in the same building. I have rather run along a little antecedent to the time, in regard to the erection of some particular buildings in the Village, in order that people may understand the progress of things in their early stages.

Job Eastman came from the Pigwacket region, either from Fryeburg, or vicinity, about 1792, in the spring; and moved in with Jonathan Cummings, Jr., the son of the proprietor of Cummings Gore, and lived in his house for several years. He afterwards commenced on the lot on which Peter Everett first commenced, though not in the same place. Job Eastman was a brother to Jonathan Cummings' wife; the proprietor of the



Cummings Gore; and in consideration of his services in the Cummings affairs, he had the promise of a lot of land; but he never having any children, when his deed was given, it was only during the life of himself and his wife; and although he had no children to inherit the fruit of his labor, he still thought the thing was not exactly right, and others, who knew the circumstances, thought just so. Job Eastman taught the first man's school in the place, in 1793, in Jonathan Cummings' house. Abigail Symonds, a sister to Lemuel Shed's wife, kept the next woman's school, after Mrs. Everett, and kept it in Cummings' barn. Thus it seems that our first teachers had rather humble places in which "to teach the young idea how to shoot."

About the last of June, 1792, Benjamin Flint came from Reading, Mass., and purchased a lot on the Waterford plantation, (since known as the Peter Town farm, and now owned by Ansel Town, and the west part of the same lot recently owned by James Smith,) and felled trees on the same. The next spring he came down to work on his lot, and on the 13th of June, 1793, exchanged lots with Jonathan Stickney, who had five or six years before commenced on a lot near Lemuel Shed. Jonathan Holman had begun on the lot east of the Peter Town farm previous to Flint's purchase; he lived there a few years, and then sold to Asa Lovejoy, and soon went to Canada.

The first marriage in the place was Nathan Foster and Miriam Hobbs, the second daughter of Jeremiah Hobbs, which took place the 17th of May, 1791; the couple were united by Nathan Merrill, of Gray, a Baptist preacher. The next marriage in the place was probably Benjamin Witt and Betsey Parsons, a sister to William and John Parsons. The next marriage was between Joel Stevens and Olive Hobbs, the oldest daughter of Jeremiah Hobbs. This marriage was on the 16th day of June, 1794, and in July following Benjamin Flint was married to Elizabeth Foster, a sister to Nathan Foster. These two last marriages were solemnized also by Nathan

Merrill, and the parties were published in Gray; and afterwards some publishments were posted up in the grist-mill as the most public and conspicuous place in the plantation. Lemuel Shed was married in Bridgton, by the Rev. Mr. Church, about 1791, and John Parsons was married to his second wife about the same time, but was probably married in New Gloucester.

Joel Stevens moved into Rustfield in the spring of 1793, and had buried his first wife, by whom he had two children, a few years before, and had his second wife when he moved in, by whom he also had two children. He buried his second wife in the following October, and in the next June married his third wife, Olive Hobbs, by whom he had fifteen more children. He died in April, 1850, at the advanced age of 94 years, and his widow is still living in this town.

In June, 1793, Benjamin Fuller and Silas Meriam came down from Middleton, Mass., and purchased land on Cumming's Gore, north of what has since been called Fuller's Corner, and felled trees themselves, and hired a considerable of an opening felled, and had it burnt over the ensuing August. They came down again in the fall, cleared a part of their burnt piece, and sowed winter rye, and then returned again to Middleton. When they came down in the fall, Mr. Fuller drove a yoke of oxen and a horse, with a common ox cart, and moved Asa Case and family, consisting of his wife, two daughters, and Rebekah Curtis, an adopted daughter, with their household stuff—such as they could bring. To be sure, such a conveyance was not quite as comfortable as the cars would be at the present day, but it did pretty well for that time. Mr. Case went to work on the lot adjoining Benjamin Flint's on the north, on the Waterford plantation. Fuller agreed with Amos Upton, (who was a kind of carpenter, and also partly a blacksmith) to erect a house and barn for him, early in the spring and summer of 1794, with the intention of moving his family to his new home.

Early in the spring of 1794, Silas Meriam and Aaron Wilkins, (who was a young man living with Mr. Fuller) and Jo-

seph Dale, a young man hired by Fuller and Meriam for the season, started from Middleton and went to Salem, with their tools and baggage. They took passage aboard a wood-sloop, and arrived in Portland after a stormy, bad voyage; and then from Portland traveled on foot to Cummings' Grant, with their packs on their backs, where they arrived about the 10th of April. They tarried one night in Portland, and staid on board the sloop. During the night there was a considerable fall of snow; and when they arrived at their future residence they found a foot or two of snow, and the few settlers engaged in making maple sugar. In a few days, however, the snow disappeared, and they commenced their clearing; sowed grain, and planted corn, potatoes, beans, &c.

In June Mr. Fuller moved his family down. He came with an ox-wagon, one yoke of oxen, and two horses; and having arrived at what is now Norway Village, he went up to his new home, and Aaron Wilkins went down with another yoke of oxen and helped drive the team around the pond, up to their new habitation. This was probably the first wagon that ever came into the town above the Village, and Mr. Wilkins says it was with much difficulty that they got through to Fuller's house. At that time there had not been any road located in the place; but the settlers had, from necessity, cleared out the trees, so as to be able to get from one to another, and that was about all that had been done in regard to any road.

I said that Mr. Fuller moved his family to his house; but Mr. Upton had not yet erected the house as Fuller expected; therefore he went into Mr. Upton's house, and there remained till late in the fall. After Fuller's arrival, Mr. Upton commenced in good earnest about the buildings. They went into the woods and cut timber, and erected a barn in season to put in his grain, and a house as fast as they could. Fuller procured boards at Rust's mill, and rafted them up to the head of the pond, and then hauled them up to where they were to be used. The barn was thirty-two feet by fifty, and the house



twenty feet by thirty-eight, and a story and a half high—the largest establishment in the Cummings Gore; they got the house so as to move into it, in November. Mr. Fuller, probably, was in the best pecuniary circumstances of any new settler who had moved into the place; and he was a very energetic, working kind of a man, and remained so till old age disabled him from labor. He made three very good farms, and erected three sets of good buildings for that day, and probably paid as large an amount of tax as almost any farmer in the town; he was addicted to no particularly bad habits, but still, from the mutability of this world's affairs, he died on our poor farm in 1850. He probably rests as quietly in his grave as though he had died possessed of millions; and could with propriety adopt the words of Watts:—

“Princes, this clay must be your bed,  
In spite of all your towers;  
The tall, the wise, the reverend head  
Must lie as low as ours.”

Joseph Dale, who came down to work for Fuller and Meriam, in a year or two bought a half lot easterly of where Benjamin Flint first began, viz., the east half of lot No. 14, in the 5th Range on the Waterford plantation, and soon after married Phebe Martin, of Andover, Mass., and moved on to his land. John Pike, a brother to Dudley Pike, came into Rustfield either in 1794, or the year previous, and commenced on the lot east of Dudley Pike's; he lived there for more than forty years, and then moved to Oxford, where he afterwards died. He was a very large, athletic man, of stentorian voice, and was often employed as master-carter, or superintendent in moving buildings, and the way he would sing out to the men was not in a very low tone. It was often the case that the new settlers did not get their first barn on the spot that suited them after they had made considerable progress in clearing up their farms. Hence the repeated calls for moving their first barns and other buildings.

Benjamin Rowe began on the lot south of Joel Stevens' lot, as early as 1794, and occupied it a few years, and was succeeded by Eliphalet Watson and his son Ebenezer Watson; they lived there a few years, and then sold out to Jeremiah Hobbs, the oldest son of Amos Hobbs. Ebenezer Jenkins, who married a sister to the Pikes, came into Rustfield about this time, or a little after, and commenced a little south of where Nathaniel Millett now lives; and Jonathan Woodman likewise commenced where Jacob Parsons now lives, soon after the same period; and probably some others in different parts of the town, of which the writer has not been able to ascertain the particulars.

In 1794 the first school-house in the place was built, on Amos Hobbs' land, on the road leading from the centre of Norway by William Parsons'. Job Eastman taught the first school in that house, and Abigail Symonds kept the first woman's school in the same.

This year John Henley came from Massachusetts, and commenced on the lot south of Amos Upton's, in the Cummings Gore, and built a small frame house on the west side of the road. Henley was rather a large-sized man, and very moderate in his movements; but there were few men who could compete with him in using an axe. He and Darius Holt, soon after he came into the place, together felled twelve acres of trees of heavy growth in one week, for Mr. Fuller, and, as they have told the writer, finished the piece by the middle of the afternoon on Saturday. Mr. Holt says he felled ten acres for Jonathan Cummings, alone, in nine and a half days. About this time John Millett and Solomon Millett began on their respective lots, which are situated southerly of William Parsons' lot. They had previously worked for William Parsons for a considerable space of time, and were brothers to Parsons' wife. Their brother, Nathaniel Millett, being younger, did not come into Rustfield quite so early as his brothers, but in a very few years after, and located himself where he now resides.

While writing concerning the Parsons and Millett families,

it brings to mind the number of smart, healthy children belonging to them in former times. The writer taught the school in that school district in the winter of 1809-10, and had thirty-five scholars who bore the name of Millett or Parsons. The noted cold Friday occurred in February, while in this school; and the severe cold prevented more than half of the usual number from getting to the school-house, and more than half who *did* get there were more or less frozen, and some of them badly. And while writing of these families, I can not withhold the tribute of gratitude which I owe to old Deacon Parsons and wife. She was a mother, not only to her own children, but to all around her. My health at that time was very feeble, and Mrs. Parsons nursed me with a mother's care. During the last month, the old Deacon used to harness his old mare and carry me to school, and at night would contrive to get me home again. He provided the fuel for the school, and would go in the afternoon to cut and split wood; when cold he would enter the school-house to get warm and smoke his pipe, and at night carry the master and his girls home. Blessed days were those. He was, in my humble opinion, a sincere, practical christian. He never failed to offer up the morning and evening prayer, and to read a portion of the Holy Bible. His family government was firm, but very mild; and perhaps no family at that day conducted with more propriety and sobriety than his. In the summer and fall of 1807 the writer worked, probably six months or more, on his new house, and had an excellent opportunity to know his firm, but mild government. I must relate one little anecdote in regard to his management of his boys—and he had a lot of them. One day Joshua and Solomon, boys about ten and twelve years of age, happened about the house, and were rather full of noisy play, like other boys of that age; Mrs. Parsons getting rather out of patience with the boys, and the Deacon happening to come in at the time, she said to him, “Mr. Parsons, Joshua and Solomon want a good whipping as much as ever two boys did.”

The Deacon listened to her with attention, and then called out, "Josh." The boy responded, "Sir?" "Come here." The boy promptly came forward. "Your mother says you want to be whipped—do you?" "No sir." "Well, then, go about your work." He then called out, "Sol." "Sir?" "Come here." He immediately came forward. "Your mother says you want to be whipped—do you?" "No sir." "Then go along to your work." And then turning to his wife, said, "Why, mother, the boys say they don't want to be whipped, and I guess they'll do well enough without it." The boys *knew better* than to take any advantage of their father's leniency. But there! I have run off the track a little to far, I confess; but I will try to keep on better for the future.

Jacob Tubbs came into the place in 1795, and commenced on the Lee Grant; although that grant was not lotted out till about 1810—it being a condition in the original grant that the tract should be exempt from taxation till after a certain lapse of time; therefore it was not put in the market for sale while it was not liable to taxation. For this reason, that part of the town was not settled till long after the other parts had made considerable progress in settlements. Mr. Tubbs, however, had the good fortune to purchase two hundred acres, selected to his own mind, and he made an excellent choice. The other few settlers on the Lee Grant were what were termed squatters, and occupied without any title.

Isaac Cobb and Asa Dunham came into Rustfield in 1795. Dunham purchased the lot where Rufus Bartlett afterwards lived till his death; and Cobb moved into Dunham's house, and lived with him till the next spring, when he moved in with Zebedee Perry; he soon after purchased the lot south of Perry's, on which he built a small house, where he lived about four years, and sold out to Daniel Hobbs, the oldest son of Jeremiah Hobbs; he then purchased where he afterwards lived till his death, which took place in May, 1825. Levi Bartlett came to Rustfield about this time, and set up

the blacksmith business; he built a large shop, with a trip-hammer, and carried on the business, on a large scale for those days, till his death in August, 1818. William Work was married to Betsey Stevens, the oldest daughter of Jonas Stevens, in 1795. In 1796, Benjamin Flint built his barn, which was the first barn erected westerly of Fuller's Corner. He had used a log hovel previous to that time, as also did the other settlers; the most of the houses were also built of logs, and the roofs covered with spruce bark, fastened on with long spruces laid across it, and confined with withes. When Benjamin Flint moved his wife home, two years before building his barn, he borrowed a cart of Mr. Fuller to carry a few household goods from Nathan Foster's, and he says that was the first cart ever driven west of Fuller's Corner, and much difficulty was experienced in getting it back again.

In 1794, there was a State tax laid on Rustfield, and the following is a copy of the assessment, as made by the assessors, *verbatim et literatim*; and this tax will show who were the inhabitants of Rustfield at that early period:

## THE COPY OF AN EXECUTION.

	£	s.	d.
Tax,     •	5	11	8
Travel,   -	1	8	4
Coppy,   -	0	2	0
Serv.,    -	0	1	4
	1	11	8
Sum total,	7	3	4

*Rustfield, November th 7, 1794.*

Assessed the sum of seven pounds, three shillings and four pence upon the polls and estates, to be collected by the 5 day of December next.

BENJAMIN WITT,	} Assessors.
NATHAN NOBLE,	
WILLIAM PARSONS,	



	Polls.	Real Estate.				Personal Est.				Sum Total.			
		£	s.	d.	qrs	£	s.	d.	qrs	£	s.	d.	qrs
Henry Rust,	0	0	19	9	2	0	1	2	3	1	1	0	1
Joel Stevens,	10d	0	3	0	0	0	1	8	3	0	5	6	3
Joseph Stevens,	10d	0	3	9	0	0	2	3	0	0	6	10	0
John Pike,	10d	0	2	10	0	0	1	9	1	0	5	5	1
Samuel Ames,	10d	0	3	9	2	0	0	5	2	0	5	1	0
Jonas Stevens,	10d	0	1	8	1	0	0	11	3	0	3	6	0
William Stevens,	10d	0	0	8	1	0	0	7	1	0	2	1	1
Samuel Perkins,	10d	0	1	9	3	0	0	3	1	0	2	11	0
Amos Hobbs,	10d	0	1	3	3	0	1	0	1	0	3	2	0
Nathaniel Bennett,	10d	0	1	7	2	0	0	5	1	0	2	11	0
Anthony Bennett,	10d	0	1	7	2	0	0	5	1	0	2	11	0
George Lessley,	10d	0	3	2	2	0	1	4	2	0	5	5	0
Benjamin Rowe,	10d	0	0	9	3	0	0	9	0	0	2	4	3
Asa Dunham,	10d	0	0	7	3	0	0	3	1	0	1	9	0
Benjamin Witt,	10d	0	3	5	1	0	0	8	3	0	5	0	0
Peter Buek,	10d	0	0	7	3	0	0	6	2	0	2	1	0
Thomas Cowen,	10d	0	0	6	2	0	0	2	2	0	1	7	0
Zebedee Perry,	10d	0	0	8	0	0	0	5	2	0	1	11	2
John Cushman,	10d	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0
Nathan Noble,	10d	0	1	10	2	0	2	1	3	0	5	6	1
Benjamin Herring,	10d	0	2	7	0	0	3	5	1	0	6	10	1
Ebenezer Whitmarsh,	10d	0	0	11	0	0	0	9	3	0	2	6	3
Joshua Smith,	10d	0	1	8	0	0	0	8	1	0	3	2	1
John Parsons,	10d	0	4	3	2	0	2	4	3	0	7	6	1
James Stinehfield,	0	0	2	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	3
David Gorham,	10d	0	1	5	3	0	0	9	2	0	3	1	1
John Millett,	10d	0	2	3	2	0	1	9	1	0	4	10	3
Solomon Millett,	10d	0	0	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	1
Nathaniel Millett,	10d	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2
Benjamin Stinehfield,	10d	0	0	7	2	0	0	4	0	0	1	9	2
William Nash,	10d	0	0	9	3	0	0	4	0	0	1	11	3
Moses Twitchell,	10d	0	0	7	1	0	0	6	3	0	2	0	0
William Parsons,	10d	0	4	9	1	0	3	11	2	0	9	8	3
Dudley Pike,	10d	0	2	10	0	0	1	9	1	0	5	5	1
Daniel Trickky,	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	4	0	1

It appears that the Lee Grant was not liable to taxation until 1807, and I have not been able to ascertain whether Cummings Gore paid any tax at this time or not, but it is probable that the few inhabitants did pay in some shape or other. It thus appears that in Rustfield there were thirty-two taxable polls, and three other persons taxed for property; but as yet we have no account of any highway tax, except what was done voluntarily. In 1796 the first road in the place was laid out by a Court's Committee from Cumberland

County, to which we then belonged. The road in question commenced at the north line of the town, and ran about south, twenty-five deg. east, over Cummings hill, thence southeasterly to Jeremiah Hobbs' lot, thence southerly by Esquire Eastman's and Deacon William Parsons', around Horse hill, and over the Craigie hill to Craigie's mills in Hebron—now Oxford. Horse hill received its name from the following circumstance: In June, 1787, when Deacon William Parsons, his brother, John Parsons, and Benjamin Herring, came into the place to fall trees, they had two horses to bring their provisions; and there being no pasture, they turned the animals out in the woods. One night they were alarmed by a bear, or some other wild beast, and ran off in a fright; they could not be found while the men remained at their work. Late in the fall they were discovered on this hill in a very poor condition. Hence the name of Horse hill. This was the way that the first settlers wended their way to Portland with their surplus produce. They generally went with their ox-teams, in the winter, through deep snows and poor roads, and often returned home themselves to lodge the first night.

Previous to this time there was but one horse in the Cummings Gore, and that an old white-faced mare, owned by Amos Upton; and she was used by all the neighbors to go to mill. They used to lash the bags on to the saddle, a huge, coarse thing made for that purpose, and let the old mare plod her way along the little pathway. Aaron Wilkins says (and he knew all about it) she would crook around the trees and rocks very carefully, so as to avoid hitting the bags against them. Before they had any other practicable conveyance to Portland, Francis Upton, the oldest son of Amos Upton, went to Portland with the old mare, and carried a small hog to market, having it laid across the pack saddle, and strongly lashed on with cords; he went on foot himself, leading or driving the old mare, and only reached Dudley Pike's the

first day, and put up there that night. In 1790, Dudley Pike obtained one ox, and John Parsons one other. They put them together, and worked them alternately, helping their neighbors with them when they could. The next year they purchased two more, and then had each of them a yoke. That was the way they did up things in those early days.

Joshua Crockett, formerly of Gorham, moved to Hebron, on the Craigie hill, and lived a few years, and in 1796 moved into Rustfield. He lived awhile in the Rust house on the hill, and then went upon the Crockett farm, where he lived till his death. Samuel Perkins had, sometime before this, begun on a lot between Crockett's and Anthony Bennett's; in a few years Crockett and Bennett bought Perkins out, and divided the lot between them. Silas Barker had, previous to this time, commenced on lot No. 14 in the 13th Range of the Waterford plantation; he did something on the land, and soon sold out to John Upton, a cousin to Amos Upton; after a few years Upton sold out to a Mr. Pingree. This year, Joel Frost, born in Tewksbury, Mass., came into the Waterford plantation, in June; he felled trees immediately, and commenced for a farm where he and his second son, William Frost, now live. His lot lies east of where Darius Holt then lived, and was lot No. 15 in the 9th Range of the Waterford plantation.

About this time the subject of having the town incorporated was called up, and, as is almost always the case, there were different opinions. They had a plantation meeting in the Waterford plantation, to see if they would consent to have the three tiers of lots set off to help make up the town of Norway, and after much discussion on the question, it was decided in the affirmative. The same year the inhabitants of Rustfield and Cummings Gore, and a few squatters on the Lee Grant, also had a similar meeting, to consult on the expediency of an incorporation; and finally determined in favor of the measure. This primary meeting was held in Samuel



Ames' house, near the mills; and measures were accordingly taken to bring about the thing in its proper time. The meeting took place Sept. 29th, 1796.

In order to show who were in Rustfield previous to the incorporation of the town, I shall have recourse to a tax bill committed to Joseph Stevens as Collector for the year 1796, for a State tax, which amounted to thirty-eight dollars and fourteen cents. A poll tax in this bill was twenty-eight cents; and the highest tax on real estate was eighty-four cents to William Parsons, and the lowest was one cent to John Cushman. The highest tax on personal estate was fifty-four cents to Benjamin Herring, and the lowest was nothing to Thomas Cowen, and one cent to Levi Bartlett. There were a few who were taxed for a poll only. A plantation tax was assessed the same year, and for about the same sum; although the poll tax was only twenty-five cents, yet the tax on the several estates was the same as the State tax.

The following are the names of the persons taxed, with the sum total of their respective taxes:

William Parsons,	\$1,83	Nathaniel Millett,	\$ ,54
John Parsons,	1,55	David Gorham,	,77
Dudley Pike,	1,50	Ebenezer Whitmarsh,	,95
Thomas Cowen,	,32	William Nash,	,48
Samuel Ames, grist-mill,	1,50	Benjamin Stinchfield,	,41
John Pike,	1,20	Joshua Smith,	,90
John Millett,	1,20	Anthony Bennett,	1,71
Solomon Millett,	,66	Peter Buck,	,68
Moses Twitchell,	,61	Thomas Hill,	,39
John Cushman,	,29	Elisha Cummings,	,39
Joshua Crockett and Mr. Rust,	1,58	Samuel Perkins,	,53
Nathan Noble,	1,14	Reuben Hubbard,	,67
Amos Hobbs,	,96	James Stinchfield,	,62
John Eaton, saw-mill,	1,15	Levi Bartlett,	,79
Benjamin Herring,	1,53	Samuel Pearse,	,33
Benjamin Rowe,	,64	Isaac Cobb,	,33
Joseph Stevens,	1,58	Henry Rust,	,84
Joel Stevens,	1,18	Zekiel Roberson,	,38
Jonas Stevens,	,88	Ephraim Briggs,	,49
William Stevens,	,59	Cimion Shertleef,	,28
Benjamin Witt,	,64	David Woodman,	,28
George Lessley,	1,05	Jonathan Woodman,	,28
Asa Dunham,	,41	Joseph Eveleth,	,28
Zebedee Perry,	,55	Thomas Furlong,	,28
Whole sum thirty-eight dollars fourteen cents.			\$38,14

The following settlers were on the Cummings land previous to the incorporation of the town, viz:—Jeremiah Hobbs, Nathaniel Stevens, Job Eastman, Jonathan Cummings, Nathan Foster, John Henley, Amos Upton, Benjamin Fuller, Silas Meriam, Francis Upton, the son of Amos Upton, who had now become of age, and Aaron Wilkins, about, or quite of age. On the Waterford three tiers were Joseph Dale, Jonathan Stickney, Joel Frost, Darius Holt, Lemuel Shed, Phinehas Whitney, Jabez Chubb, Benjamin Flint, Asa Case, and Silas Barker. On the Lee Grant were Daniel Knight, William Gardner, Isaac Cummings, Joshua Pool, William Dunlap, and Jacob Tubbs. Perhaps there might possibly have been a few more settlers within the limits of the several tracts of land which afterwards made up the town of Norway.

It appears from an old order, on Joseph Stevens, as a Collector, that Joshua Smith and Levi Bartlett were assessors of Rustfield at some period previous to the incorporation of the town.

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### ACT OF INCORPORATION.

An Act to incorporate several tracts, or grants, of land situate in the County of Cumberland, into a town by the name of Norway :

SECT. 1.—Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That one tract, or grant, of land, known by the name of Rustfield; another by Lee's Grant; a third by Cummings' Grant; together with the three tiers of lots, which formed a part of the plantation of Waterford, lying next to, and adjoining the easterly side of said plantation—the outlines of the said town of Norway being as follows, viz:—Beginning at a certain birch tree, standing on the westerly side line of Paris, and on lot number thirteen, well marked, thence running northerly, one thousand one hundred and sixty rods, by said Paris line, to a spruce tree, marked;

thence south, seventy-six degrees west, one thousand and four rods, to a cedar tree, standing on the easterly side line of Cummings' Grant; thence north, twenty-five degrees west, fifty-five rods, to the northeasterly corner of said Cummings' Grant; thence south, sixty-five degrees west, four hundred and eighty rods, to the easterly side line of said plantation, (of Waterford;) thence north, twenty-five degrees west, on said easterly line of said plantation, about three hundred and thirty rods, to the northeasterly corner of the plantation aforesaid; thence south, sixty-five degrees west, on the northerly side line of said plantation, crossing three tiers of lots to the dividing line between the third and fourth tiers of lots, from the aforesaid easterly side line of said plantation; thence south, twenty-five degrees east, on said dividing line, by the town of Waterford, as incorporated, to the southerly side line of said plantation; thence north, sixty-five degrees east, on said southerly side line of said plantation, crossing the ends of the aforesaid three tiers of lots, about three hundred and thirty rods to the southeasterly corner of said plantation; (the last-named distance ought to be four hundred and eighty rods;) thence south, twenty-five degrees east, by Phillips' Gore (so called) six hundred and twenty-four rods, to Hebron line; thence north, fifty-four degrees east, by Hebron line, about one thousand and seventy-four rods, to a tree standing on the westerly side line of Paris, marked; thence northerly by said Paris about nine hundred and seventy rods to the first bound; together with the inhabitants thereon, be, and hereby are incorporated into a town by the name of Norway; and the said town of Norway is hereby invested with all the powers, privileges and immunities which other towns in this Commonwealth do, or may enjoy. Provided, nevertheless, that Waterford, as incorporated, exclusive of the before-mentioned three eastern tiers of lots, are and shall be entitled to four-fifths of all public lots lying within the aforesaid three tiers of lots. Provided, also, that no taxes of any

kind be laid on any part of the land contained within the bounds of Lee's Grant until the expiration of ten years from the passing of this act.

SECT. 2.—Be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that Enoch Perley, Esq., be, and he is hereby empowered to issue his warrant, directed to some suitable inhabitant of the said town of Norway, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof, to meet at some convenient time and place for the purpose of choosing all such officers as towns are by law required to choose in the months of March or April, annually.

This act passed March 9, 1797.

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Gentle reader, we have now got into Norway;—not the beautiful Norway of the present day, but Norway in its infancy. I have conducted you through a long journey, and mostly through a dreary wilderness. We have wandered, not quite so long a time as the children of Israel did in reaching the promised land, but for the space of almost ten years after females first showed themselves in the plantation, which was in the spring of 1787. Our ancestors, the first settlers, waded, not through seas of blood, like some mighty conquerors, but through mud and water, thick forests, burnt trees, and black logs, oftentimes suffering hunger and hardships. They were thinly scattered about in small clearings dotted here and there with little huts, log houses and log hovels, many of them surrounded with large families of young children, many times poorly clad, and poorly fed. Yet think not that “they were of all men,” and women, “the most miserable;” for if we may believe the testimony of the few who are still living, we shall find that they had their comforts and consolations as much, or more, than at the present day. As a general thing, they were like a band of brothers, and stood by each other in times of need; and by dint of patient industry and perseverance, they finally

achieved a glorious victory over the dark wilderness, causing it to bud and blossom as the rose. The soil proved fertile and productive, and under the guidance and smiles of Providence, they laid foundations for happy, happy homes. They could, with heartfelt gratitude, adopt the words of the Psalmist:

“ He sends the showers of blessings down  
To cheer the plains below,  
He makes the grass the mountains crown,  
And corn in vallies grow.”

I have not been able to learn precisely on what day the first annual meeting was held for the choice of town officers, nor with certainty at what place; but it is believed by the oldest settlers now living, that it was held at the house of Job Eastman, May 3rd, 1797, and the following persons were chosen Selectmen and Assessors for that year, viz: Job Eastman, Benjamin Witt, and Joseph Stevens; Joshua Smith, Town Clerk; Job Eastman, Town Treasurer; and Ebenezer Whitmarsh, Constable and Collector of Taxes.

In order to show who were the inhabitants of the town at the time of its incorporation, I here give the names as standing on the first valuation, and assessment of the first tax after the organization of the town:

## PERSONS' NAMES.

Ames Samuel,\*  
Bennett Anthony,  
Bennett Nathaniel,  
Buck Peter,  
Bartlett Levi,  
Bartlett Capt.,  
Case Asa,  
Cummings Jonathan,  
Crockett Joshua,  
Cowen Thomas,  
Chubb Jabez,  
Cummings Elisha,  
Dunham Asa,  
Dale Joseph,

## PERSONS' NAMES.

Dunlap William,  
Eastman Job,  
Fuller Benjamin,  
Frost Joel,  
Gorham David,  
Hobbs Jeremiah,  
Hobbs Ames,  
Hubbard Reuben,  
Herring Benjamin,  
Holt Darius,  
Henley John,  
Hill Thomas,  
Lessley George,  
Lovejoy Asa,

\* The name of Samuel Ames has stood at the head of all our valuations, tax lists, and lists of voters, probably every year since the incorporation of the town. At all events, I have never seen one otherwise.



PERSONS' NAMES.	PERSONS' NAMES.
Millett John,	Upton Amos,
Millett Solomon,	Upton Francis,
Millett Nathaniel,	Witt Benjamin,
Meriam Silas	Whitmarsh Ebenezer,
Noble Nathan,	Whitney Phinehas,
Nash William,	Whitney Jonathan,
Parsons William,	Work William,
Parsons John,	Foster Nathan,
Pike Dudley,	Flint Benjamin,
Pike John,	Curtis —
Perry Zebedee,	Beals William,
Perkins Samuel,	Briggs Ephraim,
Rust Henry,	Bird —
Rowe Benjamin.	Woodman Jonathan,
Robinson Ezekiel,	Young Nathaniel,
Stevens Jonas,	Yates William,
Stevens Joseph,	Tobbs —
Stevens Joel,	Furlong Thomas,
Stevens Nathaniel,	Knight Daniel,
Stevens William,	Witham Jeremiah,
Shed Lemuel,	Richardson —
Shirtlef Simeon.	Webster Simon,
Saunders Jonathan,	Cobb Isaac,
Smith Joshua,	Crooker Calvin,
Stinchfield James,	Crooker Ebenezer,
Stinchfield Benjamin,	William Reed.

Making seventy-nine taxable residents, and as polls were then taxable at sixteen years of age, there were eighty-six polls taxed, as some of the boys had reached the age of sixteen years.

The non-resident proprietors of land were assessed,

		\$ 89,94
The settlers were assessed,	-	945,49

Total assessment,	-	-	\$1035,43
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A poll tax in this assessment was one dollar and sixty cents, and the assessment probably included the State, County, and town tax, though the book does not positively show the fact. There was a highway tax assessed the same year for the sum of

	-	-	\$342,49,8
The non-residents paying	-	-	17,78,4

The residents the remaining	-	\$324,71,4
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A poll tax was \$1,56. In 1798, a money tax, including



State, County, and town, was assessed, amounting to \$296,73; a poll tax was \$1,00, and the number of polls 95. A highway tax the same year amounted to \$498,93, and a poll tax was \$2,50. In 1799 it appears that a State tax for \$41,02 was assessed: a poll tax was thirteen cents, and there were 107 polls. The total valuation of the real and personal estate in the town amounted to the sum of \$21,119. I find a small remnant of a tax, which was called a minister tax, in which a poll paid seventeen cents; and another fragment, which was probably a town tax, in which a poll paid sixty cents. From what can be gleaned up, it appears that the taxes for the year were about as follows:

State tax,	-	\$ 41,02
Minister tax, (nearly)	-	52,00
Town tax, (money)	-	200,00
do. do. (highway)	-	350,00

Making a total of	-	\$643,02
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In 1800 it appears there were 115 taxable polls in the town; the amount of money tax not ascertained, but estimated the same as last year, \$296,73. Highway tax \$611,02.

In 1798 Joshua Smith was chosen Town Clerk; Job Eastman, Treasurer; Job Eastman, Benjamin Witt, and Joseph Stevens, Selectmen; Ebenezer Whitmarsh, Collector. In 1799, Job Eastman, Clerk; Job Eastman, Treasurer; Job Eastman, Joshua Smith, and Benjamin Witt, Selectmen. In 1800, Job Eastman, Clerk; Job Eastman, Treasurer; Job Eastman, Anthony Bennett, and Jonathan Woodman, Selectmen; Ebenezer Whitmarsh, Collector. Soon after the incorporation of the town, Job Eastman was appointed a Justice of the Peace, and acted in that capacity for the space of forty-eight years.

During the summer and fall of 1799, John Parsons built him a new one-story house, 30 feet by 36; he had nearly completed the finishing of it in January following, and had moved his family into the same. One evening, as one of the

joiners was working at the bench, he cut his finger badly, and went into the room where the family lived to bind up his wound; in jumping across the bench he knocked over the candle, and not observing it while doing up his finger, the house was wrapped in flames almost instantaneously, as there was a large quantity of shavings on the floor. This was a sad loss. Mr. Parsons went courageously to work, and by the help of his kind neighbors, rebuilt the house, and got into it before spring work commenced.

The following persons came into the town from the time of incorporation up to, and within, the year 1800, viz: Cad F. Jones, in 1797; Edward Wells, and his son Edward Wells, Jr., John Richardson, Jr., James French, Joseph Small, David Morse, John Upton, Ebenezer Cobb, Josiah Bartlett, Nathaniel Bancroft, Joshua Pool, Barzilla Dwelly, Richard Blake; Daniel Hobbs, a son of Jeremiah Hobbs, and Amos Upton, Jr., a son of Amos Upton, had become of age, and were taxable citizens in 1798. In 1799, there is the addition of Amos Blanchard, Darius Wilkins, John Upton, Moses Abbott, Samuel Godding, William White, David Upton, Joseph Martin, and probably some others came in, in order to make arrangements for a settlement as soon as convenient. In 1800, there were added, Tilden Bartlett, Rufus Bartlett, Jacob Bancroft, Stephen Curtis, Jacob Frost, Edmund Merrill, Jacob Parsons, Alfred Barrett, Ward Noyes, Bailey Bodwell, Samuel Andrews. At this time there were fifty-seven houses and forty-seven barns in the town.

This year the Militia was organized in Norway, and the first officers were Jonathan Cummings, Captain, Anthony Bennett, Lieutenant, William Reed, Ensign.

In 1801, the town officers were as follows: Job Eastman, Clerk; Job Eastman, Treasurer; Job Eastman, Jonathan Woodman, and Cad F. Jones, Selectmen; William Hobbs, Collector.

Highway tax \$720,68; money tax, of all kinds, \$1696,-

54; number of polls 129; poll tax on the highway \$2,00. This year, or last, Joseph Rust built a grist-mill at the Steep Falls, and it appears that he was taxed for the Rust property by the valuation.

Previous to 1800, Amos Upton had built a large one-story house, and in January of that year Ward Noyes moved from Andover, Mass., into Mr. Upton's house, and lived there until the next fall. In July there was a terrific tempest of lightning, thunder, rain and wind. The house was struck by lightning at the easterly end of the ridge-pole; the electric fluid ran down the rafter and other timbers, and went almost over the whole house. Seven persons were knocked down by the shock, and Ward Noyes was insensible for a long time; probably he never would have recovered had it not been for the application of cold water, which by Mr. Upton's direction was poured upon him by pailsfull—he having, a short time previous, seen in a newspaper an account of its efficacy. Large spaces of thick forest were prostrated by this wind, and considerable damage done otherwise.

The first post-office in Norway was established in 1800, and William Reed appointed post-master. He remained in office about forty years, and was a vigilant, faithful officer; he also continued to keep a store of goods, and traded largely for that day, for many years. He engaged extensively in farming, and in all kinds of business was a very energetic, persevering man.

While speaking of the establishment of the first post-office and first post-master, I will give an account of the mail at that time, the first mail-carrier, &c. Jacob Howe, grandfather of Jeremiah Howe of Norway Village, was the first mail-carrier, and rode on horseback with the mail-bag, and a large pair of saddle-bags, in which he carried a few newspapers. He came from Portland, through Gray, New Gloucester, Poland, Hebron, to Norway, and then to Waterford, Bridgton, Raymond, Standish, Gorham, to Portland again,

once a week; and the time of his arrival at this, and other places, depended on circumstances, the state of the weather, and the situation of the roads. The newspapers were mostly the old Portland Gazette and Eastern Argus; for there were at that early day two political parties, though not many *third parties*, or "*one idea*" parties. The carrier had an enormous tin horn, or trumpet, which he sounded just before his arrival at the respective post-offices, and also in neighborhoods where a man or two took a newspaper; then the boys and girls would run out to get "father's paper," and soon all the neighbors learned the news. Mr. Howe carried the mail several years, and was succeeded by a Mr. Smith; after a few years, Joshua Pool, of this town, succeeded Smith, and William Sawin succeeded Pool—all of them carrying the mail and newspapers in the same way. About 1812, a Mr. Brown, of Waterford, became a mail-contractor, and ventured to convey the mail in a one-horse wagon, (one-horse wagons came into being about that time,) and once in a while would carry a passenger or two to Portland, or some other place. James Longley succeeded Mr. Brown, and the mail-route was so altered that a mail ran direct from Portland to Norway Village and Paris Hill. Longley had the hardihood to run a pair of horses and double-sleigh in winter, and a four-wheeled carriage in summer, though his patronage in the way of passengers was rather small. However, by perseverance and attention, Longley in a few years built up a pretty good business, and was finally succeeded by John B. Stowell. He owned the line for a few years, and was succeeded by G. G. Waterhouse, who owned the line, and most of the time hauled the reins himself, until the railroad went into operation, when he was transferred to the cars as conductor on a passenger train. I must be permitted to say a word about Waterhouse, as a stage-driver; (not intending, in the least, to speak disparagingly of his predecessors.) He was ever attentive to the wants and comfort of his passengers, and very correct

in doing the thousand errands intrusted to his care. He finally raised the character of the line to an eminent pitch, and before the conveyance by cars took place, it was not uncommon to see three, or more, four-horse coaches come into Norway Village, all loaded to overflowing—bringing sometimes sixty passengers.

About December, 1819, a company of sixteen individuals got up a two-horse stage to run from Norway Village to Bethel, and finally to Lancaster, New Hampshire. We encountered much opposition at first in regard to the mail, but at length made it a popular and profitable line, till superseded by the railroad. Anthony Bennett, the son of Capt. Anthony Bennett, was one of the company, and was the driver for several years, and raised the character of the line, as business on the route increased, so much, that the company sold out the concern without any loss or trouble; which was doing pretty well for so wild a project, as it was called at the beginning. Orren Hobbs, a grandson of Jeremiah Hobbs, drove some on this route, and on the Portland route in Waterhouse's employ; afterwards he was on the route from Portland to Augusta. For a few years previous to the commencement of railroad conveyance, A. A. Latham drove a four-horse coach from Norway to Bethel and Shelburne, on the Lancaster route, and he was considered a very gentlemanly driver. Both Hobbs and Latham have been transferred to the cars as conductors, which shows pretty clearly how they were esteemed as drivers of coaches for public conveyance.

After Mr. Reed retired from the post-office, G. J. Ordway, (a son of Amos Ordway, who married, for a second wife, Mary Ames, the oldest daughter of Samuel Ames, the first miller in Rustfield,) was appointed post-master, and kept the office a few years; he was succeeded by Asa Thayer, who a few years before came from Paris to Norway; and in 1849, Elliot Smith, the present incumbent, succeeded to the office. Elliot Smith is the youngest son of Joshua Smith, and the



only one living. I ask pardon for getting so far ahead, as to dates; but I thought the reader would better understand the matter in regard to our post-office and mail concerns, if it was related altogether—therefore I have made this digression; but I will now return back to 1801.

In 1801, Amos Upton built a grist-mill on a brook about three-fourths of a mile westerly of Fuller's Corner. It was rather a rudely constructed thing, as he did almost all the work himself, even to the making of the mill-stones. His oldest son, Francis Upton, afterwards owned said mill, and tended it for many years. In the drought of summer there was not sufficient water to grind; but at other times it did considerable business, and was a great convenience to the settlers in the northwest part of the town. Amos Upton, Jr., another son of Amos Upton, succeeded his brother Francis; he built a new mill on the same stream, a little above the old one, and did considerable business in grinding. Jonathan Swift, some twenty-five years ago, succeeded Amos Upton, Jr., and afterwards built a new mill, which is still in operation.

This year, Phineas Whitney, on the Waterford three tiers, had the misfortune to lose his house by fire. It was a log house, to be sure; but it was all he had. It was quite a distressing circumstance to him and his family, who were in rather poor circumstances before the loss. Mr. Whitney was a soldier through all the revolutionary war. He was in the battle of Bunker Hill, and I have often heard him tell the story of that memorable contest. He said that just as he had put his last charge into his gun, the British forces had about reached their rude breastwork; a British officer mounted the embankment, and cried out to his soldiers to "rush on, as the fort was their own;" Whitney then took deliberate aim at him, and, to use his own language, "let him have it," and he fell into the entrenchment. He then clubbed his musket, and cleared his way the best he could, and finally made good his retreat.



Jacob Frost, who moved from Tewksbury, Mass., into Norway, in 1800, was also in the battle of Bunker Hill. He was severely wounded in the hip by a musket ball, and taken prisoner. Afterwards he was carried to Halifax, where he was immured in a filthy prison, and his wound poorly attended to—the ball never being extracted; he remained there several months, and suffered almost everything but death. While yet very lame, he, with three fellow-prisoners, planned a way to escape, by removing a stone, and digging out under the wall of their prison. This they effected without discovery; but, sad to relate, one of their number was too large to get through the opening, and after using every possible exertion, he had to be pushed back into his cell, and left to his lonely and miserable fate. Frost and the other two made their way to the nearest thicket, or woods, and as soon as daylight began to appear, they concealed themselves as best they could, where they lay till darkness again covered their flight. Mr. Frost was still too lame to make much headway, but his companions in suffering proved true and faithful friends, and did not leave him, but helped him along—oftentimes carrying him on their backs. Frost was concealed under a large tree turned up by the roots, and a quantity of old leaves thrown over him, during the first day. In the morning they were missed; pursuit and search were immediately made for them, and while he was under the old tree, some soldiers came along on the trail of the fugitives, and sat down to rest themselves, and talked over the matter of the escape of the prisoners, on the same log under which he lay concealed. Kind reader, can you imagine how the poor lame soldier felt while his pursuers were sitting on the log and discussing the subject? Don't you think his heart went pit-a-pat? However, as a kind Providence ordered it, the fugitives were not discovered, and as soon as night spread its sable mantle over the earth, they groped their way along as fast as possible; they suffered very much from hunger, having no food but a few dry crusts, which

they had saved from their scanty daily allowance while they were preparing the way to escape. After their old, mouldy crusts were gone, they were almost driven to desperation; and one night they carefully approached a house in hopes of finding something to appease their hunger; but after a long search they could find nothing for food, except an old shoe, which they tore to pieces and chewed the leather; and Mr. Frost has said that was the sweetest morsel he ever ate. Occasionally they could steal a hen from some farm-yard or barn; but then they had to eat it raw, lest they should be discovered by the smoke of their fire if they attempted to cook it. Thus they wandered many nights, and concealed themselves many days, until they had left a long distance between them and their loathsome prison; and they then began to venture out cautiously in the daytime. One day, being sorely oppressed with hunger, they ventured up to a house, and rapped at the door; a woman came to the door, and they asked her for something to eat. She eyed them closely, then bade them enter, and hastily set food before them; she told them to eat what they would, take some to carry with them, and hasten away as soon as possible: for if her husband should come in he probably would secure them if he could. What a heavenly trait there is in woman! Her heart is always touched with sympathy for the distressed. They probably oftener act from the impulse of the moment than the stronger sex; but that they possess more tender feelings of benevolence to the suffering, can hardly be doubted by any one who has carefully studied human nature. After filling their stomachs and pockets, they stole away as carefully as they came. After a long and hungry wandering, they finally completed their escape. Mr. Frost reached his native town, and afterwards emigrated to the town of Norway, where he lived to a good old age. He like to have died, however, with the bullet in his hip; he often, in former times, told the writer that it never had been extracted; but it was finally

removed a few years before his death. He was a little lame, and had a stiffness in his hip till he died, January 28th, 1839, aged 84 years.

Previous to 1802, I find the following increase of new settlers, viz: Josiah Blanchard, John Baneroft, John Case, Enoch Merrill, Enoch Merrill, Jr., Daniel Merrill, Alexander Mills, Amos Cummings, (son of the proprietor of Cummings Gore) William Bartlett, Daniel Holt, William Hobbs, second son of Jeremiah Hobbs, James Packard, Jonathan Pottle, Timothy Stone, Joseph Stone, Paul Twombly, William Twombly, John Hix, Asa Hix, Daniel Davis, John Hor, Samuel Pingree, Joseph Gallison, Samuel Smith, John Ordway, Samuel Watson, Benjamin Tucker, Dr. Heath, and probably a few more, that have not come to the knowledge of the writer.

Town officers for 1802—Job Eastman, Clerk; Job Eastman, Treasurer; Job Eastman, Cad F. Jones, and Jonathan Woodman, Selectmen.

State tax, \$77,33; Town and County tax, \$1845,60; number of polls 160; number of houses 65, barns 55. It may be understood that they did not tax log houses and barns, and this accounts for the small number of houses in proportion to the polls. I have not been able to find any highway tax for this year; but it probably was about the same as the money tax, and blended with it, as the whole sum is large.

This year, William Hobbs, (second son of Jeremiah Hobbs) commenced trade; his shop was valued at \$20—stock in trade \$50. Benjamin Tucker, born in Canton, Mass., came from Worcester, Mass., to this town, the same year, and set up the saddle and harness-making business—the first in the town. He engaged in the business successfully for many years, and his oldest son, Benjamin Tucker, Jr., continues it to very good advantage.

I find a Dr. Heath on the valuation this year, but he was not the first doctor in the place. Dr. Shannon was the first, —

who stayed but a short time, and was succeeded by Dr. Barrett, who soon gave place to Dr. Heath. About 1803, he was succeeded by Dr. Swett, who left in 1805; and in the fall of that year Dr. Moses Ayer came into the town, and continued to practice till about 1824, and was generally esteemed as a very good physician. He then removed to Sangerville, but in the latter part of his life was subject to insanity, and died in the insane hospital a few years since. Dr. Asa Danforth came into Norway about 1821, and remains here at the present time; he has had an extensive practice. Dr. Jonathan S. Millett, (a son of John Millett) was born in this town. After studying his profession, and trying some other places, he settled down in his native town about 1825, and has ever had a large practice. Dr. Danforth and Dr. Millett, at the present day, and for many years past, probably stand as high in the estimation of the community as any medical characters in this section of the country. Dr. Jesse Howe has recently settled in this town, and so far appears to be successful. He is a grandson of our first mail-carrier. I had almost forgotten to mention one other physician and surgeon, Dr. French, who resided in the town a year or more about 1825. He performed a critical operation on a child of the writer, for blindness, caused by cataracts in both eyes, and was successful in restoring the child's sight in a great measure. He also amputated a leg for Phineas Whitney, the old soldier, when he was seventy-five years of age; the old gentleman did well, and lived five or six years after, enjoying good health for so old a person. I speak well of the surgeon's skill, but no further. Dr. Thomas Roberts, a student of Dr. Millett, partially located himself in the upper part of Norway, after completing his studies, about 1831; he practiced a few years with very good success, and much to the satisfaction of his employers. He then removed to Rumford, where he still continues his practice, and has the reputation of a good physician. Dr. Nathaniel Grant partially

settled in this town about the time Dr. Roberts left; after a short practice he removed to Wakefield, N. H. He married the only daughter of William Hobbs. Dr. Leander Tripp also settled in the upper part of the town, near Swift's Corner, about 1840, and remained there a few years, not having a very extensive practice. There was also a Thompsonian practitioner, of the name of Carsley, from about 1846 to 1848, but much need not be said of him. In short, no town has more reason to be satisfied with its physicians than the town of Norway for the last forty years, and we hope to be as fortunate for the next forty.

Joel Frost had the misfortune to have his barn burnt on the fourth day of May, this year. It was caused by fire flying from a felled piece, which Ward Noyes, his nearest neighbor, was burning. Mr. Frost had been assisting him in setting the piece on fire, and they thought there was no danger; but the wind shifted suddenly, and fire was blown among the litter at the side of the barn, enveloping it in flames in a few minutes. This was a serious loss to Mr. Frost, as the barn was nearly new, and large for that day; and much difficulty and expense attended the transportation of boards from Rust's mill at that time, owing to the newness and roughness of the road. This year Benjamin Flint built a good house, having lived till this time in one of logs.

In the fall of 1802, we had the first regimental muster, probably, that took place in the County of Oxford—at all events, the first in this regiment. The place of parade was on the spot which I shall now call the burnt district, about where Anthony Bennett's buildings stood, and just west of the little bowling-alley. The land was then new, and not much cleared, but had had the trees and bushes cut down and burnt over a short time before. This muster was a great day among the other days of that time. The citizens of the place turned out voluntarily, and cleared off the logs and wood remaining on the ground; they pulled and knocked up the small stumps, and



leveled the inequalities of the ground as well as they could for this important occasion. Martial music at that day, in this place, was an enlivening/affair, as we had but little of it; and in order to be well prepared for the occasion, John Bennett, a younger brother of Anthony and Nathaniel Bennett, then quite a young man, went down to New Gloucester and obtained a *pewter fife*, and on the evening before the muster, delighted the boys and girls, and even older ones, by playing a few tunes as a kind of prelude to the much-longed-for, coming day.

The officers of the regiment were as follows:—Levi Hubbard, of Paris, Colonel; Mark Andrews, of Buckfield, William Livermore, of Livermore, Majors; William C. Whitney, of Hebron, Adjutant. The Companies were from Buckfield, Rumford, Francis Keyes, Captain, Hebron, Paris, Otisfield, — Mores, Captain, Norway, Jonathan Cummings, Captain. Six companies in all;—a pretty formidable military force, and armed with muskets of every color, length, and caliber; some with bayonets, and more without; but the greater part would burn powder, which some of them had learned the smell of at Bunker Hill, Saratoga, Yorktown, and other places, during our revolutionary struggle. The officers of the several companies, at least the captains, were armed with a sword and a spontoon; and the uniform was a tri-cornered cocked-hat, deep blue coat, faced with bright red broadcloth, the facing turned out about four inches on each side of the front, buff or yellow vest and pants for the field officers, and white or cream-colored vest and pants for the company officers; and they looked grand, I tell you—especially those who bore a shining epaulette on one or both shoulders.

On the opposite side of the street, about where the post-office and Beal's block now stand, Ensign Reed had a lot of boards piled along by the side of the fence; and these served nicely for the "shanty fixings," where some of the good dames sold cakes, pies, maple sugar, (candy was hardly born then) and other little refreshments; while men and boys sold a little



liquor, such as good old "white-face and molasses," known then by the sober cognomen of *black strap*, with a little old Holland and Cogniac for the use of the officers and other gentlemen of distinction—but all good enough. No fault was found either with the cakes, liquor, soldiers, or officers—in fact, everything seemed propitious, excepting that in the afternoon the wind blew rather strong, and the dirt and dust becoming pretty thoroughly stirred up by the horses' hoofs, and being rather dark colored from recent burning, the buff and white pants looked tremendously—for many of them appeared as if they were putting on mourning for the wash-tub.

The regiment performed many maneuvers and evolutions laid down by old "Steuben," and other military tacticians. Both soldiers and officers received the hearty applause and approbation of all the lookers-on, and that was "glory enough for one day." The place felt proud of the parade, the soldiers felt proud of their officers, and the officers felt proud of their soldiers, but much more so of themselves. In short, it was a day of high exultation with all, as it seemed to revive up, and rekindle the patriotic feelings which had pervaded the bosoms of many old soldiers through the long war that had achieved our National Independence.

The concourse of people was immensely large, and fortunately no accident occurred to mar the enjoyments and festivities of the day. The regiment, although afterwards curtailed of a part of its territory, continued to increase in numbers and "military graces," until it embraced within its limits ten companies of infantry, one of artillery, one of riflemen, one of cavalry, and two of light infantry. But those days of military parade and glory have passed away, and are now numbered among the things that are not; and probably a like fate awaits *many* of the things of the present day.

Adjutant William C. Whitney is still amongst the living, and resides in this town. He came into this new country, to Hebron, when a young man, and has passed through much

hard labor and toil, and many offices of honor and profit. (the office of Councillor to the Governor several years, and sheriff of the County of Oxford for many years more,) and has accumulated a large share of this world's goods, which, according to the course of nature, he must, in a few years at most, leave to others. Thus we are all passing away, like the rippling waters of a stream, every day carrying us nearer to the ocean of Eternity.

This train of thought about old by-gone things brings freshly to my mind another of the old worthies of the revolution, and of the first settlement of this town, Samuel Ames. He was the drummer at this famous muster, and the first man that *beat a drum* in the town of Norway. He was the first miller, and made about the first wagons that were built in the town; and he was first in many other things pertaining to those old-fashioned times. He was 93 years old Feb. 25, 1852, but up to that time, and after, retained his physical and mental faculties in a remarkable manner. I have spent days with him, taking notes of events that occurred in the early settlement of this town, prior to my personal knowledge of the place and people. He was very clear on all subjects which ever came within his notice, and particularly so in regard to dates. It makes my heart feel sad to be so often called upon to part with these standard settlers. Since his last birth-day, while discoursing with him about "old things," he, with a smile on his countenance, observed to me that he delighted to help me to every thing within his recollection, but added he, "I feel a presentiment that I shall not live to see the book." And it seems his presentiment was verified, for he departed this life March 18, 1852, much lamented.

In 1803, Town officers as follows: Joseph Rust, Clerk; Job Eastman, Treasurer; Benjamin Witt, Nathan Noble, and Timothy Stone, Selectmen.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$ 77,33
Town voted to raise for schools,	-	-	-	-	300,00
Town charges,	-	-	-	-	20,00
Total,	-	-	-	-	<u>\$397,33</u>

Number of Polls 162. Highway tax same year, \$803,18. Can not find any County tax for this year. At another meeting held at the house of Joseph Stevens some time this year, the town voted to raise \$150 to repair the pond bridge, so called, near Rufus Bartlett's.

This year, Henry Rust, Jr., a son of Henry Rust, the proprietor of Rustfield, became an inhabitant of the town; also Samuel Pingree, Stephen Pingree, Jr., Elijah Flint, Charles Kinsman, and some others. Besides the addition made by new-comers, several of the sons of the early settlers had now become of age, and were many of them beginning to make settlements for themselves. William Lessley and Amasa Lessley had become of age, and now lived on the same farm on which their father, George Lessley, began; he being one of the first five settlers who came into Rustfield, and died in 1800, as I find the estate taxed to his widow in 1801. Joel Stevens, Jr., the oldest son of Joel Stevens, about this time, or previous, began on a lot on the Waterford three tiers; he raised corn one year, and then sold out to the Pingrees. Mr. Stevens lived in the town many years, and in many places, and died in Otisfield, 1847. Daniel Davis, John Case, Morton Curtis, Noah Curtis, Levi Frank, George Doughty, and Thomas Wood, were new-comers into the town. Among the sons of the old settlers, besides those already named, were Amos Upton, Jr., Daniel Stevens, Jonas Stevens, Frye Lovejoy, Micah Upton, Daniel Knight, Jr., and probably some others.

The military affairs underwent some change this year. Capt. Jonathan Cummings was promoted to a Major in the regiment, and Anthony Bennett promoted from a Lieutenant to Captain, and Ward Noyes chosen Lieutenant.

This year, David Frost, an old gentleman, and John Frost, his oldest son, and three other sons, Robert, Peter, and William, moved into Norway, upon Frost's hill, so called; also Samuel Andrews and Moses Gammon commenced farms in the same neighborhood. They came from Gorham, Maine. Daniel Young, this year, came from New Gloucester, and set up the hatting business with Joseph Gallison. I find William Bartlett on the books this year; he moved here from Hebron, where he had lived two or three years, but originally came from Plymouth, Mass. He had a family of several children, the oldest of whom was Esther Bartlett, well known for many years as a tailoress. She and her sister Emily plied their needles with diligence for many years, and during the last years of their parents' lives, who lived to a very advanced age, they manifested the most filial affection towards them, always doing all in their power to render their old age comfortable and happy. An example worthy of imitation by all future sons and daughters. Amos Town, from Andover, Mass., came into Norway this year, and felled trees on the Cummings Gore, in order to settle permanently in the place.

Town officers for 1804: Job Eastman, Clerk; Job Eastman, Treasurer; Benjamin Witt, Nathan Noble, and Timothy Stone, Selectmen; Jonathan Swett, Collector. It appears that Ebenezer Whitmarsh was mostly Collector of taxes from the incorporation of the town up to 1804; and the bills were this year taken from Swett and given to Whitmarsh, and he was succeeded by Aaron Wilkins, who collected the taxes for one year.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Norway, held at the house of Maj. Jonathan Cummings, in said town, March 5, 1804, the following sums of money were voted to be raised, viz: Voted to raise nine hundred dollars

to be laid out in repairing the highways,	\$900,00
Voted to raise for the support of schools,	350,00
Voted to raise to defray town charges,	120,00

Voted to raise to purchase Weights and Measures,	75,00
Voted for the support of the poor,	150,00

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\$1595,00

State tax, \$77,33. County tax missing. Number of polls 169; number of scholars 320. Total value of rateable property in the town of Norway, as taken by the assessors in the year of our Lord 1804, \$40,977.

I came from Massachusetts into the town of Norway, Feb. 12th, 1804, and must be pardoned if I give a short description of the appearance of the place at that early day. There were three two-story buildings in the Village, viz: the Reed store, which has lately been remodelled, and an addition put to it, by Robert Noyes, the old house recently occupied by Ichabod Bartlett, Esq., and the old Samuel Smith house, which formerly stood where William C. Whitney's house now stands. There were a few other houses in the Village, but mostly small and poor. There were six more two-story houses in other parts of the town, viz: Nathaniel Bennett's, Dudley Pike's, the Rust house on the hill, Amos Hobbs', Joel Stevens', and Jonathan Cummings; and the house in the Village now owned by John Deering was in progress of building, by John Ordway. I think that about that time, or soon after, Capt. Henry Rust brought a chaise into the Village, from Salem; and there was no other wheeled carriage in the town, except a very few ox-carts and ox-wagons, which were scarce articles at that time. There was not such a thing as a cart or wagon west of Fuller's Corner, and not a one-horse wagon in the town before 1809. The vehicles for winter conveyance were about of the same character as those for summer. The farmers who were able had a double market sleigh or sled, and generally a one-horse pung, as they used to call them; they were usually made by setting the studs into the top-pieces, and bending on the runners, which were made of a straight, tough leverwood or beech, and a seat to lay across



when the ladies rode to a meeting or a party. In the summer, or fall, when the ladies rode, it was on horse-back, either alone, or behind their husband or beau; and if behind, often on a pillion, if they had one. Now, girls, do n't laugh; for I have seen as pretty girls ride in this manner as I ever saw in my life, as old as I am.

The first fire in the Village took place about this time; the building was a potash—loss not very distressing. There was one other potash in the town, first put up by Maj. Jonathan Cummings, and after a few years purchased by Benjamin Fuller, and moved up to Fuller's Corner. Fuller used to take ashes of the inhabitants in that part of the town, and pay them in molasses, salt-fish, salt, &c., which he received in exchange for his potash. It helped make business for Mr. Fuller, and he was a business man at that day.

In 1805, Town officers as follows: Job Eastman, Clerk; Job Eastman, Treasurer; Henry Rust, Jr., Nathan Noble, and Aaron Wilkins, Selectmen; Aaron Wilkins, Collector.

Valuation of taxable property, \$41,717. Number of polls, 187; houses 80; barns 79. Town voted to raise money as

follows: For schools,	-	-	\$400,00
For support of poor, and town charges,			200,00
To pay Collector,	-	-	24,00
			<hr/>
			\$624,00
State tax,	-	-	\$77,33
Overlaid to pay Collector,	-	-	2,93
			<hr/>
			\$80,26

I can not determine the exact amount of highway tax, but think it to be about \$800.

The following persons became inhabitants of the town previous to the taking of this valuation: Ebenezer Jenkins, Moses Ayer, Luther Farrar, Josiah Farrar, James Flint, Elijah Flint, Moses Holt, Daniel Holt, Jesse Howe, John Needham, Stephen Pingree, Hezekiah Pingree, Solomon



Root, Joseph H. Root, Joseph Shackley, John Thomas, John Shaw, Eliphalet Watson, Ebenezer Watson, Asa Ricker, Jonathan Shed, John Bennett, Thomas Beal. The following persons, sons of the older settlers, had now become of age, and were taxed for their own polls, and property, if they had acquired any, and many of them were beginning to make farms for themselves: Asa Lovejoy, Jr., John Pike, Jr., Enoch Lovejoy, Enoch Knight, James Buck, Jared M. Buck, Stephen Bartlett, and probably some others, both of new immigrants, and those arriving at the age of twenty-one years.

I must say a word about some of the new immigrants into the place. Moses Ayer I have already spoken of as one of our doctors. Luther Farrar was of the legal profession, (a lawyer, as the common phrase is,) and as a lawyer his character was (I was almost on the point of saying) spotless; and if any should say that he was not a *great man*, I think there are none to say that he was not a *good man*. Ever bland and courteous in his deportment and intercourse with all, he was emphatically a peacemaker among his fellow-men. He never encouraged any frivolous, dirty litigation, but endeavored to bring about an amicable adjustment of such difficulties as ought to be settled without resort to legal process. He married Mercy A. Whiting, from New Ipswich, N. H. She came here in the fall of 1806, and the probability is that he came some time in 1804. His health while here was rather delicate, and his debility finally terminated in consumption, of which he died, much lamented, early in the spring of 1812. He had an extensive run of business, and built the house and office now occupied by Levi Whitman, who became a partner in business with Mr. Farrar a few months before his death; and finally succeeded him in almost everything—that is, in business, property, (partly by purchase,) and wife—as after a few years he married Mr. Farrar's widow, who was, and still is, a very amiable and capable woman; and what I consider as another item of importance, Mr. Whitman has always pur-

sued the same peaceful course as his predecessor, by discountenancing all frivolous and mean litigation. During Mr. Farrar's lifetime, another attorney by the name of Adams made an attempt to settle here; but the soil did not at that time prove strong enough to bear two lawyers, and he retired. In 1832 and '33, William A. Evans made a short stand in Norway, as an attorney, and did some business for the time he was here, but finding the feed rather short, sought a better field. Moses B. Bartlett, an attorney from Bethel, and William W. Virgin, an attorney from Rumford, came into Norway Village three years or more ago; they are doing a decent business, and bid very fair to become useful and eminent gentlemen of the legal profession. I do not feel disposed to eulogize living characters too strongly, lest it might excite feelings of vanity in the subjects, and of envy in the minds of others; but I will add one word in regard to Mr. Virgin, who has commenced *one* very important suit since coming here, and it has had a happy termination in his marriage with a daughter of H. G. Cole, Esq. Mr. Bartlett married a lady from Brunswick before coming to Norway.

Josiah Farrar, a brother to Luther Farrar, was a clothier; he stayed here a few years only, and then went to Waterford. Daniel Holt and Moses Holt were blacksmiths, and worked in the Village. Moses died many years ago. Daniel was always a persevering mechanic, till old age abated his activity. He still lives in the Village, enjoying a competence—the fruit of an industrious life. John Shaw put in operation at the Steep Falls a carding-machine, the first in the town or vicinity. He was succeeded by Samuel Ratcliff, in the same machine, a few years after. Carding and clothier's work, at that period, and for twenty or thirty years after, were almost indispensable to the inhabitants. Few people wore any finer cloth than that made in their own families; and, in fact, gentlemen were proud to appear dressed in a suit of clothes spun and woven by their own wives and daughters. The spinning-wheel and

the loom made cheering music in almost every house. Gentlemen in broadcloth, and ladies in silk were rather rare articles, and appeared but seldom in this "down east" country at that early period. Joseph Shackley undertook the management of Rust's tan-yard, where he continued to tan and curry hides for many years, and did well, too, in the old fashioned way.

This year, the first saw-mill in the Village was destroyed by fire, in March, but was rebuilt during the summer following. William Beal had tended the saw-mill for several years previous, and continued to for four or five years after.

The County of Oxford was organized this year, it having heretofore formed a part of Cumberland County. Joseph Rust, of Norway, was chosen Register of Deeds for said County, and served in that office till his death, which took place in the spring of 1815. He was an excellent Register, as the books will now show on examination. In order to avoid mistakes as to dates, among such a multiplicity of items to be noticed, I shall here give a list of such persons belonging, or having belonged to the town, as have served as officers of the County since its organization :

Joseph Rust, Register of Deeds, served ten years. 1807 ; Henry Rust, County Treasurer, and served till his decease in 1820, thirteen years. 1815 ; Levi Whitman, County Attorney, and served till 1833, eighteen years. 1820 ; Henry Rust, Jr., County Treasurer, and served till 1829, ten years. 1838 ; David Noyes, County Commissioner, and again in 1841, served two years. 1838 ; Henry W. Millett, Sheriff, and again in 1841, served two years. 1842 ; Jonathan B. Smith, County Commissioner, and served till 1845, four years. Jonathan Swift has been Senator in the State Legislature two years.

I will now return back to the old track, and begin again with 1806. The name of the town Clerk has now become stereotyped, and will remain so for forty years.

In 1806, Job Eastman, Clerk ; Henry Rust, Treasurer ; Joseph Rust, Anthony Bennett, and Aaron Wilkins, Selectmen ; James French, Collector of taxes.

Money tax, embracing State, County, and town, \$816,11. Poll tax in the assessment, \$1. Highway tax, as assessed, \$1016,68. Poll tax in the same, \$2. Number of polls, 181 ; scholars, 393.

The following persons moved into town previous to the taking of the valuation for this year : John Wagg, a Baptist minister, Ephraim Twombly, Willis Sampson, Aaron Shackley, Jonathan Pollard, Benjamin Peabody, Edward Oaks, Thomas Judkins, Moses Houghton, Stephen Greenleaf, Holmes Doten, Thomas George. The following became of age, and were taxed in their own names : Anjier Tubbs, James Packard, Jr., Zephaniah Frost, Frederick Coburn, who came from Massachusetts in 1800 with Ward Noyes, and was an apprentice at the carpenter and joiner business, Daniel Cummings, John Cummings.

There was a total eclipse of the sun on the 16th day of June, and it was so dark that a few stars were visible ; birds acted as though they were retiring for night, and all things appeared gloomy and dark.

Town officers in 1807 : Job Eastman, Clerk ; Henry Rust, Treasurer ; Aaron Wilkins, William Parsons, and Cad F. Jones, Selectmen ; James French, Collector of taxes.

State tax for 1807,	-	-	-	\$107,33
County tax,	-	-	-	89,54
Town tax,	-	-	-	750,00
Deficiency of highway tax for 1806,	-	-	-	37,43
Overlayings,	-	-	-	29,89

Total amount of Collector's bills, - \$1014,19  
 Highway tax, \$1208.65. Poll tax on highway, \$2, and in money tax, \$1,50. Number of polls, 184 ; scholars, 407.

New immigrants into the town this year : Joseph Bradbury, Isaac Lovejoy, Daniel Smith, Jonathan Shed, Jr.,

Elijah Jordan, John Clifford, Francis Butcher, David Major, Increase Robinson. Those arriving at twenty-one years of age, and taxed in their own names, were: James French, Jr., Jeremiah Hobbs, Jr., Jeremiah Hobbs, 3d, Benjamin Herring, Jr., Enoch Holt, William Pike, Joseph Stevens, Jr., Charles Stevens, Charles Tubbs, John Woodbridge, Charles Young, Alexander Hill.

In May, this year, a shocking accident happened. Joel Stevens, Jr., and William Stevens, sons of Joel Stevens, and Francis Butcher, a hired man, went to a brook between the Mud pond and the Sand pond for the purpose of catching suckers, a kind of fish very plenty in that brook in the spring season. There was a large, high rock near the fishing-place, against which fishing-parties were in the habit of building fires, and there had been built a kind of camp for a shelter when not fishing. After fishing awhile, they laid down in the camp in front of the fire, when suddenly the rock split asunder, and a large portion of it fell upon the camp, crushing it down upon them; and William Stevens was so crushed by the weight of the rock, that he was carried home in a shocking condition, and lived about three days, suffering the most excruciating pain till his death. Joel Stevens was so confined down by parts of the camp falling on him, that he could not get out till Butcher, who fortunately was not confined, took their axe and chopped off the poles, and thus liberated him; although considerably bruised, he was not dangerously hurt. William Stevens was a very amiable, sprightly young man, and his sudden death was deeply lamented, not by his family only, but by all around him. A funeral sermon was preached by Noah Cresey, who came here as a preacher a few weeks previous, from the following text: "For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes, that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them."—Ecclesiastes, ix., 12. I shall *never*



forget the *fervor* and *solemnity* of that discourse, and I then set it down in my mind that he was a man who could cut without patterns. But I shall speak more of him when I take up the religious affairs of the town.

The school-house in district No. 1, or Capt. Jones' district, was built in 1806; one in the Village in 1805; one in the Parsons district prior to 1800, time not exactly known; one in the Bennett district about 1807, and one at Fuller's Corner about the same time.

A saw-mill was built by Jonathan Cummings on the outlet of the little Pennessewassee pond as early as 1804, and in 1806 it was taken to pieces and moved down the stream a few rods; but it never did a great business, and rotted down many years ago.

In the spring or summer of this year, (1807) a flagrant outrage was committed by a British armed ship-of-the-line on the United States frigate Chesapeake, from which the British commander took three seamen, under the pretence that they were British subjects. Our government was highly incensed at the proceeding, and by way of putting the nation in a posture of defence, ordered a draft of one hundred thousand militia. Capt. Anthony Bennett was ordered to make the requisite draft from his company; but he, thinking a sufficient number would volunteer their services, beat up for volunteers; when, behold! every man, with the exception of *one*, turned out, and he stood in no enviable position alone, where the ranks stood a few minutes before. Thus the reader can see that the Maine boys were ready to resist the *right of search* at that early day. The Captain finally had to make the draft of the requisite number, but happily, the drafted soldiers were never called for. I will here add that Capt. Anthony Bennett performed his last military services in the fall of this year. He was a carpenter and mill-wright, and was at work on a mill at Craigie's Mills, in Hebron, (now Oxford) when the staging gave away, and he fell upon his

broad axe, cutting his thigh in a shocking manner; the inflammation of the wound produced a mortification which caused his death October 28th. The soldiers lost a highly-respected officer, and the town a highly-respected and useful citizen.

In 1808, town officers as follows: Job Eastman, Clerk; Henry Rust, Treasurer; Aaron Wilkins, Joshua Smith, and Cad F. Jones, Selectmen; James French, Collector of taxes.

Valuation of taxable property, \$50,540. Number of polls 193.

State tax,	-	-	-	\$109.33
County tax,	-	-	-	96.52
Sum voted by the town,	-	-	-	630.00
Deficiency of highway tax in 1807,	-	-	-	31.36
Overlayings,	-	-	-	37.71
Overlayings in County tax,	-	-	-	4.86

Total money tax,	-	-	-	\$909.78
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It appears by an old book that a tax bill for \$102,54 was committed to James French, dated Jan. 11, 1809, to be paid into the town treasury on or before the first day of March next;—thus making the whole money tax \$1012,32. Highway tax for same year, \$1009,39.

The following persons came into town previous to this last valuation: Philip Abbot, William Cox, Josiah Covel, John Haynes, Ephraim Packard, Stephen Sanborn, Daniel Town. The following are such as arrived to the age of twenty-one: Robinson Hobbs, Hoyt Pingree, Jacob Russell, Ebenezer Bancroft.

In the winter of this year a very sudden death occurred in the northwest school-district. At noon-time the boys, as is often the case, were playing goal, or "goold," as boys call it, and a Francis Major, a boy about fourteen years of age, started to go round, and Abial Holt, a boy on the other side, pursued him; the snow-crust bore them very well, but Francis slumped through very suddenly, and pitched forward on the crust; he sprang again upon his feet, and instantly fell

on the snow a corpse. The writer was standing with the teacher, Mr. Thomas Wood, before the school-house door, watching the game, and ran to him in two minutes from the time he fell, and there was no pulse to be felt, or any sign of life to be discerned. It was supposed by the doctor that the sudden jerk of the neck, as he fell, broke the pith, or spine, of the neck, which produced instant death.

Town officers for 1809 : Job Eastman, Clerk ; Henry Rust, Treasurer ; Joshua Smith, Cad F. Jones, and Nathan Noble, Selectmen ; Joseph Bradbury, Collector and Constable.

At the annual meeting in March, the town voted to raise for the highway, - - - \$1000,00  
 In August an additional sum of - 150,00  
 Subsequently a third tax of - - 190,00

Total, - - - - \$1340,00

Money tax, including State, County, and town taxes, with overlaying, &c., \$911,17. Value of taxable property, \$50,-756. Number of polls 212 ; scholars 410.

The following persons came into town previous to the taking of this valuation : Nathaniel Abbott, Timothy Abbott, Isaac Abbott, Isaiah Hall, Daniel Leighton, John Manchester, Abner Stubbs, William Twombly, Jr., John Fifield, Samuel Nute, Paul Lombard. The following became of age before this valuation was taken : William Foye, John Herring, Peter Everett, Jr., Amos Noble, John B. Everett, Henry Rust, 3d.

This year the town of Norway sent its first Representative to the Legislature of Massachusetts, viz., Luther Farrar, Esq.

Town officers for 1810 : Job Eastman, Clerk ; Aaron Wilkins, Treasurer ; Aaron Wilkins, Cad F. Jones, Solomon Millett, Selectmen ; Joseph Bradbury, Collector and Constable. Luther Farrar, Esq., Representative.

Money tax, for State and town, - \$898,46  
 County tax not found, supposed, - 76,72

Total, - - - - \$975,18

Highway tax, \$1000. Number of polls 202; scholars 421. Number of inhabitants in the town 1010, by the census.

New immigrants: Reuben Brackett, George Bridgham, Thomas Crocker, Calvin Crocker, Daniel Cummings, Humphrey Cleaves, Benjamin Eastman, Abiathar Eastman, Uriah Holt, Samuel Hall, Daniel Watson. The following became of age previous to the taking of this valuation: David Noyes, Jacob French, Isaac F. Lovejoy, Thomas Pool, John Perry, Joseph Stevens, 3d, Amos Young.

In September, this year, Benjamin Peabody's house was burnt in the night, about eleven o'clock. The fire caught, as was supposed, in the catting, or topping out, of the chimney.

## CHURCH HISTORY.

### UNIVERSALIST DENOMINATION.

I have as yet said nothing about the religious affairs of the plantations, or town, since its incorporation. But we are not to suppose that affairs of a religious nature were wholly neglected. By the laws of Massachusetts, at that time, towns having a certain number of inhabitants were obliged to have a certain quantum of preaching in each year; and no other than the standing order, (as it was sometimes called) or orthodox, or otherwise, the Congregational order, was considered as coming within the meaning of the law; therefore all taxable persons were under the liability of being assessed for the support of preaching, whether the doctrine preached coincided with their particular religious sentiments or not. Hence, some little difficulties arose in regard to raising money to hire preaching. Under these circumstances, whether the law made the provision or not, the time soon arrived when it was no uncommon thing for individuals possessing religious sentiments different from the faith sanctioned by the State, to form themselves into regular societies, and draw their tax back from the town treasury, in order to apply it to the support of preaching adapted to their own sentiments. The following extracts

from the old Society record will show the state of things in early days. Extract from the record here follows :

*November 20th, 1798.*

Whereas it is contemplated, as a matter of publick utility and advantage, to have the Doctrine of the Grace of God dispensed among mankind for their mutual comfort and edification, that they thereby understand the nature and character of their Creator God, may be led to put their trust in him at all times, and thereby feel their hearts inclined to love him, and one another, and not only view in prospect, but know in reality how good and pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity—where all discord will cease, and party spirit come to an end. It is likewise contemplated to invite Brother Thomas Barns (who is a man of sobriety, and sustains a good moral character, whom we conceive to have a good degree of understanding in the Doctrine of the Grace of God, and favoured with a gift to dispense the same to his fellow-men) to move his family into these parts, where it is conceived he would be of great use in the regulation of societies, whose decorum, and good deportment would greatly adorn our profession. It is furthermore considered expedient (lest we should bring a burden on him and his family unable to support) to assist him in procuring a place where his family may be comfortably situated.

We, therefore, who have hereunto subscribed, agree to bestow upon him, of freedom, and choice, the sum affixed to our names ; in case he move his family into these parts for the purpose as above—

PARIS.

Levi Hubbard, Ten dollars.  
Daniel Staples, Ten dollars.

NORWAY.

Nathaniel Bennett, five dollars.  
Benj. Witt, five dollars.  
Levi Bartlett, five dollars.  
Anthony Bennett, five dollars.  
Benj. Herring, five dollars.

A true Copy from the original,

Attest, JOSEPH RUST, Clerk.



We, the subscribers, Inhabitants of Norway and the adjacent Towns, believing it to be the right as well as the duty of men to join in society, and publickly, at stated times and seasons unite in the worship of the only living and true God, and as some of us have made voluntary provision for the support of a publick Teacher of piety, religion and morality; we do agree to establish an annual meeting, and also to appoint other Society meetings as shall be thought proper by the subscribers for the purpose of choosing a publick teacher, or teachers, a Clerk and Committee, and other officers as shall be thought necessary by the subscribers for the peace and good order of the society; we also agree that at such society meetings subscriptions shall be opened for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the society, such as the *Building*, or *Hiring* a convenient place for publick worship, for the support of publick teachers and other expenses, which may arise according to the vote of the society, which subscription shall be disposed of by the vote of the society; each subscriber having an equal right to vote in this, and all other matters that pertain to the regulations of this society; and we do agree as Disciples of Jesus Christ to live in peace among ourselves; Claiming no right to exercise authority over the consciences of each other in spiritual matters, but henceforth stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free. And furthermore we agree that this Society composed of the following subscribers shall bear the appellation of the first Religious society in Norway, and subscribe ourselves "Christian Independents" believing in the doctrine of the Salvation of *all men* by Jesus Christ.

March 2d, 1799.

Daniel Staples,	Moris Shannon,	Levi Bartlett,
Levi Hubbard,	Samuel Ames,	William White,
William Babb,	Anthony Bennett,	Nathaniel Young,
Elisha Cummings,	Benjamin Herring,	Joseph Rust,
Benj. Witt,	Nathaniel Bennett,	Josiah Bisco.

A true copy from the original,

Attest, JOSEPH RUST, Clerk.

The following receipt will show that Thomas Barnes had really become a regular preacher in this society.

*Norway, April 12th, A. D., 1800.*

Then settled with the Committee of the religious society in Norway, and received full compensation for my services as a preacher of the Gospel in that society for the year 1799.

Signed By me, THOMAS BARNES.

A true Copy from the original,

Attest, JOSEPH RUST, Clerk.

In 1801, I find the names on the record to be nineteen in number. It appears that this society erected a meeting-house in 1801, and probably covered the outside, and completed it in the course of the ensuing year. I find the following to prove its erection :

NOTIFICATION.—The Universalists, or the Christian Independent society of the towns of Paris and Norway are hereby Notified that their annual meeting will be held on Monday the tenth day of May next at the Meeting-house in Norway at 2 o'clock P. M., for the following purposes viz :

1st, To choose a Moderator for said Meeting.

2d, To choose a Clerk for the society for the ensuing year.

3d, To choose a Committee to transact the necessary business of the society.

4th, To choose a Committee especially for the purpose of giving Certificates to those of the society, who may apply for the same, in order to obtain the money that they may be obliged to pay as Minister tax to any town Corporation, or other society, who may presume to exercise authority over them.

5th, To choose a Collector, and Treasurer for the society, and to transact any other business thought proper when met.

Per order of the Committee.

*Norway, 26th April, 1802.*

JOSEPH RUST, Society Clerk.

A true recordl.

Attest, JOSEPH RUST, Clerk.

When called to act on the fourth article, Anthony Bennett,

Joseph Rust, Levi Bartlett, were chosen as said committee. In order to show the use of such a committee, I here insert an old document on the subject :

We, the subscribers, Thomas Barnes, publick teacher of a society in the religious sect, or denomination called Universalists in the town of Norway, and Anthony Bennett and Joseph Rust Committee of said society do hereby certify that Benjamin Tucker doth belong to said Society, and that he frequently and usually, when able, attends with us in our stated meetings for religious worship.

THOMAS BARNES,  
JOSEPH RUST,

*Norway, January 17th, 1803.* ANTHONY BENNETT.

On the back of the foregoing certificate are the following endorsements :

*Norway, Sept: 14th, 1803.*

Sir, please to pay Mr. Thomas Barns sixty-three cents it being Benjamin Tucker's proportion of Minister tax for the year 1802.

BENJAMIN WITT, } *Selectmen*  
NATHAN NOBLE, } *of Norway.*

To JOB EASTMAN, Esq., *Town Treasurer.*

To Mr. William Hobbs Collector of the town of Norway, please to pay the contents of the underwritten order, and this shall be received in the Treasury the same as cash.

JOB EASTMAN, *Treasurer.*

N. B.—The certificate was duly backed over by Tucker.

The Baptist denomination labored under the same embarrassments, as the following certificate will show :

This certifies to whom it may concern, that John Parsons of Norway joined the Baptist Church of Christ in Paris in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, and has, and does now attend publick worship with us.

JAMES HOOPER, *Minister.*

JOHN WILLIS, }  
LEM'L JACKSON, } *Committee.*

*Paris, June the 6, A. D., 1801.*

It appears by the record, April 21, 1804, that the society numbered thirty-six.

The meeting-house built in the Village was the first in the town, and as some (who ought to know) say, was the first Universalist church erected in the District of Maine. In 1805, the Universalist Society of Paris and Norway was incorporated by an act of the Legislature of Massachusetts. During several successive years things went along with the usual progress of matters, like all other societies. Mr. Barnes continued to preach with them, with occasionally some other preachers, and among others Sebastian Streeter. In 1822, there were forty paying members, (and such are, in all societies, the best members.) Nov. 22, 1828, the society, having it in contemplation to build a new house, voted to sell the old one. Nov. 28, 1828, they voted to build a new house, and chose the following committee to superintend the building of the same: Nathaniel Bennett, Elijah Hall, Asa Danforth, Asa Barton, and Joshua Crockett. Benjamin B. Murray became the preacher in this society a short time previous to building the new house, and continued till some time in the year 1832. The new house was finished and dedicated in 1829. In 1833, the Rev. Henry Hawkins was invited to preach to the society, and continued its teacher and preacher for a short time. In 1837, Rev. Luke P. Rand was called by the society to become its religious teacher, and remained till some time in 1840. In 1838, there was a great revival in the society, and an addition of twenty-six members was made, which was almost four times the number of its first founders. Soon after the withdrawal of Mr. Rand, the Rev. T. J. Tenney was invited to become the teacher of the society, and remained till 1846. In 1849, Rev. J. L. Stevens was called to become the pastor of the society, and continues with it up to the present time. In 1851, the society remodelled and rededicated their house, and put into it an elegant organ. As a religious society it appears flourishing. The paying members now number fifty-eight.

Since the first organization of the society, very many of the old members have bid adieu to all sublunar things, and passed to the spirit land, "from whose bourne no traveler returns;" but their places seemed to be filled with others, (with many additions) who are springing up after them. May the society, and its teachers, ever enjoy the smiles and guidance of that Being, "whose right it is to rule."

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#### CONGREGATIONAL DENOMINATION.

I now proceed to give some account of the Congregational church and society in Norway, as that was the next in order of organization, except what was done to fulfil the requirements of the law, before any society was formed.

It seems, by the best authority within my reach, that Mr. Gould, some years afterwards settled in Bethel, was the first minister that was hired to preach in the town; and it being summer-time, he preached in Jeremiah Hobbs' barn—length of time unknown. A minister by the name of Chapman, who probably resided in Bethel, used sometimes to pass through the town, and preached a few times; and occasionally a missionary made a visit, and ministered to the people. Mr. Nathan Merrill, of Gray, a Baptist preacher, sometimes visited the settlement, even before its incorporation, and generally preached when he came here; he likewise solemnized several of the first marriages in the place.

A minister by the name of Stoddard, about 1801 or 1802, preached for a considerable time, and the people were so well satisfied, that they came to the conclusion to settle him; but some things derogatory to his character as a preacher coming to light, they finally dismissed him from any further duty—as they believed him to be a wolf in sheep's clothing, who might devour some of the lambs. Mr. Stoddard was probably *witty*, if not *good*; and thinking (rightly too) that Capt. Jonathan Cummings exerted considerable influence adverse to his settlement in the town as a minister of the gospel, on



preaching what he termed his farewell sermon, he paid rather a sarcastic compliment to Cummings. He pretended to have had a remarkable dream, and obtained the latest news from the infernal regions. Beelzebub, the Prince of Devils, had hastily summoned a grand council of his co-workers in evil, to consult on the furtherance of his nefarious designs. He stated to his compeers that he had received intelligence that the town of Norway, on this earthly ball, was about to settle a minister of the gospel, and that there must be some plan contrived to prevent such a terrible obstacle to his own rule and reign in poor Norway. After much elaborate discussion, his Satanic Majesty ordered his best and fleetest horse to be brought up, while he was making hasty preparations for his journey. In the meantime, some one of his sage counselors inquired of him if there was not some person in Norway who could be furnished with an agency to do the business for him, and save the journey. He began to deliberate on the subject, and suddenly exclaimed, "O yes! there is Jonathan Cummings; I had at first forgotten that he was there; he can do the business just as well as I can, so you may put up my horse again." And it seems he was not mistaken in his agent, for he has done the business just as well as his master could, had he come on purpose.

On the 6th. of October, 1802, the Congregational Church was organized, and the following are the "Articles of Faith:"

1st.—We believe that there is one God, who is the Creator, Lord, Governor and Judge, both of angels and men, and the Sovereign Lord of providence and grace, and who is eternal, self-existent, almighty, Infinite in knowledge, wisdom, love, goodness and holiness.

2d.—We believe that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; that these three are equal in power and glory, and that equal honour belongs to them.

3d.—We believe that God made man in his own image in

moral rectitude ; that man fell by eating the forbidden fruit, involving his whole posterity with himself in sin and ruin ; that all, who, by natural generation, are born of flesh, are depraved and children of death ; that no one without being born again, can enter into the kingdom of God.

4th.—We believe that as God reserves fallen angels to the Judgment of the great day, so he might justly have left all mankind to everlasting death ; but in the riches of his sovereign love he gave his son to be born and die for them ; raised him from the dead for their justification and salvation, and by his spirit keeps all, who truly believe, to eternal life in heaven.

5th.—We believe the scriptures of the old and new testament to be the word of God ; and a revelation from him of *his will* and *man's duty*, and that it is a perfect rule both of faith and practice, teaching the true knowledge of God, the redemption of man by Jesus Christ, the justification of believers by his righteousness, and the renovation of the elect by his Spirit.

6th.—We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ requires the first day of the week to be sanctified as the Lord's day ; that he has appointed his ministers to preach his word and to administer christian ordinances, particularly baptism to believers and their seed, and the Lord's supper to Christ's family, as the memorial of his death, and that he requires secret, family, and publick worship of God, the singing of his praises, and the reading of his word, with the keeping of all his moral commands.

7th.—We believe that God does all things by Jesus Christ according to his eternal counsels and decrees, and requires mankind to do all acts of obedience, and worship in Christ's name and with the assistance of his grace, going always to God through Christ, and by the holy spirit.

8th.—We believe that Christ, who is exalted at the right hand of the Father, and governs the world as head over all

things to the church, will at the last day descend from heaven in glory with the holy angels, will raise the dead, and judge the world in righteousness, condemning the wicked according to their works to eternal death, and giving to the righteous eternal life in the kingdom, and blessed presence of God.

COVENANT.—In presence of the Holy God, and in the belief of the glorious truths of his word, we avouch the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost to be our God, and do solemnly covenant with him, and promise, in dependence on his grace, to believe, worship, and obey him in all things, at all times, according to his word; making the scriptures the supreme rule of our faith and practice; honouring him in all his ordinances; doing every duty in the name of Christ; relying on the grace of his spirit, and walking with his saints as joint members of Christ's body, keeping the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, hoping in the Lord Jesus Christ, and waiting for his coming unto eternal life. Amen.

The names of those who signed the Covenant :

Joanna Upton,	Amos Upton,
Lydia Frost,	Jacob Frost,
Rachael Stone,	Joseph Stone,
Miriam Foster,	Nathan Foster,
Lydia Stone,	Timothy Stone,
Joanna Jones,	Chad Wallader F. Jones,
Mary Bancroft,	John Hor,
Huldah Case,	Enoch Merrill,
	Benjamin Flint,
	Jonathan Gurney,

*Norway, October 6, 1802.*

The foregoing confession of faith and covenant were assented to, and signed by the subscribers, whose names are above written, whom we declare to be a regular Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, denominated the Church of Christ in Norway.

Done with the approbation, and in the presence of us Missionaries and Pastors of Churches.

ENOCH HALE, of West Hampton,  
 SETH PAYSON, of Ringe,  
 JONATHAN GRANT, of Hawley.

October 6, 1802. The church being formed, chose Timothy Stone Deacon, Moderator and Clerk.

ENOCH HALE,  
JONATHAN GRANT, } *Missionaries.*

It appears that the church records were to be kept in the house of Amos Upton, who had previous to this time built himself a large house for that day, and for many years it was used as a place for religious meetings. He was a zealous professor, and spent much time in fitting his house with seats to accommodate those who attended meeting on the Sabbath. On Saturday afternoon he would bring in blocks and planks, or boards, and arrange seats in his long kitchen, in preparation for meeting the next day. Mr. Joseph Martin was a good singer, and understood the rules of church psalmody well for that early day. Occasionally a missionary would come along, and stop and preach a few Sabbaths with the church and people; and sometimes a minister was hired to preach a Sabbath or two, or a month, and once or twice for three months.

In 1803, June 24, I find there was a town order given to Timothy Stone, for money paid by him to Rev. Enoch Whipple, for preaching two Sabbaths, \$10,00. And the same year, an order to Nathan Noble, for money paid by him to Rev. Mr. Smith, for preaching one Sabbath, \$5,00. In 1805, there was an order given to Joseph Stevens, for money paid Mr. Spaulding, for preaching eight Sabbaths, at \$5,50 per Sabbath, \$44,00; and another town order was given for boarding the said Spaulding, and horse, \$16,00.

Thus it appears that we were not entirely destitute of the preached word; and when there was no minister, the people assembled in Mr. Upton's house, and held what used to be called a Deacon's meeting; there would be a sermon read, (the writer has read many in our Sabbath meetings,) and prayers offered up by some of the more gifted members of the church, and singing, good enough. There were many good singers of the *old school* method of singing, and uncle Jo

Martin (as we used to call him) would give us the pitch of the tune with his pitch-pipe, and we could make first-rate church melody of such tunes as Old Hundred, St. Martins, Wells, &c.

In the summer-time, when there was a minister, the meetings were often, and usually, held in some barn—perhaps in Jeremiah Hobbs', or Esquire Eastman's—and the elderly people with the ladies generally occupied the lower part of the barn, while the boys and younger portion of the assembly ascended to the scaffolds. In such humble places of worship, the little swallows would twitter the praises of Almighty God over our heads, while an attentive audience would eagerly listen to the words of truth which flowed from the mouth of the speaker.

Thus things went along till the early part of the spring of 1807, when Noah Cresey came to Norway, and was employed to preach by the Congregational order. He gave almost universal satisfaction to all hearers, especially to those of his own denomination; but an attempt to settle him proved abortive, on account of there being many Universalists, Baptists, and some few Methodists, who were just beginning to appear amongst us as a religious sect.

In 1808, Maj. Jonathan Cummings, though not a professor of any particular order of religion, undertook, on his own responsibility, to build a Congregational meeting-house, on the same site now occupied for a similar house. The building was large—forty-eight feet by sixty, and thirty feet posts. It was raised early in July, and nearly finished in that and the succeeding year.

The attempt to settle Mr. Cresey having failed, only served to stimulate the church and society, and they then applied to the Legislature for an act of incorporation. They finally obtained their request, as will be seen by the following act:

An Act to incorporate a religious society in the town of Norway:



SECT. 1.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same; That the following persons, viz., Joseph Bradbury, Job Eastman, Joel Stevens, Cad W. F. Jones, John Hor, Benjamin Fuller, James Flint, Jeshua Crockett, Jonathan Pottle, Darius Wilkins, Eliphalet Watson, Silas Meriam, John Pike, Aaron Wilkins, Amos Hobbs, Amos Town, Increase Robinson, Asa Noyes, Enoch Holt, William Lessley, Ward Noyes, John Needham, Stephen Pingree, Jr., Micah Upton, Jonathan Gurney, Joseph Martin, Benjamin Flint, Robinson Hobbs, Enoch Merrill, Joel Frost, Thomas Wood, Jeremiah Hobbs, Jeremiah Hobbs, Jr., Daniel Hobbs, Jeremiah Hobbs, 3d, Jonas Stevens, Jr., John Case, Daniel Holt, Jacob Russell, Frye Lovejoy, Ephraim Twombly, Francis Butcher, Dustin Patch, Zephaniah Frost, Philip Abbott, John Ordway, Jacob Frost, Daniel Town, Amos Upton, Amos Upton, Jr., Jonathan Shed, Jonathan Cummings, Luther Farrar, William Hobbs, Benjamin Peabody, Amasa Lessley, Joseph Stevens, Jr., Moses Ayer, Elijah Flint, Amos Cummings, Jonas Stevens, Nathan Noble, Ebenezer Watson, Stephen Bartlett, Timothy Stone, Nathan Foster, Isaac Lovejoy, Ebenezer Bancroft, together with their families and estates with them, be and they are hereby incorporated into a Society by the name of the Congregational Society in Norway, with all the power, privileges and immunities to which other Religious Societies are entitled by the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth.

SECT. 2.—Be it further enacted that any Justice of the Peace in the County of Oxford is hereby authorized and empowered to issue his warrant directed to some suitable inhabitant of said town of Norway requiring him to notify and warn the members of said Congregational Society to meet at such convenient time and place, as shall be expressed in said Warrant for the purpose of choosing such officers as Parishes,

are by law empowered to choose at their annual meetings in the months of March or April.

In the House of Representatives Feb. 25, 1809. This Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, *Speaker*.

In Senate Feb. 28, 1809. This Bill having had two several readings passed to be enacted.

II. G. OTIS, *President*.

Approved March 1, 1809. LEVI LINCOLN.

*Secretary's Office, March 7, 1809.*

True Copy.

Attest WM. TUDOR,

*Sec. of Commonwealth.*

The first annual meeting of the society under their act of incorporation, was called on the tenth day of April, 1809, and measures were taken to give Mr. Cresey a call to become their pastor and teacher, and to be ordained over the church and society at some suitable time. In accordance with this resolution, the following Committee was chosen to carry this matter into effect: Job Eastman, Nathan Noble, Joseph Stevens, and John Hor. They forthwith addressed to him the following Call:

To Mr. Noah Cresey, Candidate for the Gospel Ministry.  
DEAR SIR:—The church and people of the Congregational Society in the town of Norway, being united in their desires, to have you continue with them to preach and administer to them the ordinances of the Gospel, and as a manifestation of their attachment to you as their teacher and instructor in divine truth, their approbation of your walk and conversation, their thanks for your love and labour with them in the Gospel hitherto—Have at a legal meeting held on the tenth day of April Inst. by said society, unanimously voted to renew their invitation for you to settle, and be ordained as Pastor and Minister over said church and society. And for your encouragement to settle and labour with them in the Gospel, do agree and engage to pay you two hundred and sixty-six dol-

lars and sixty-seven cents as your salary for the first year; and add sixteen dollars and sixty-seven cents yearly, until the sum amounts to three hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-four cents to be your stated salary, so long as you shall labour with the church and society in preaching the Gospel, and administering the ordinances thereof to their satisfaction as a teacher, and you be satisfied in them as a people under your care and charge. And for your further encouragement, do agree to pay you three hundred dollars as a settlement, to be paid in labour and materials for erecting buildings for yourself in said town of Norway as you may want. And may God direct you in the path of duty, and grant you all needed aid and assistance whereby you may be enabled to come unto the church under your care and charge from time to time in the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel of peace.

JOB EASTMAN,	} <i>Committee</i>
NATHAN NOBLE,	
JOSEPH STEVENS,	
JOHN HOR,	
	} <i>of the</i>
	} <i>Congregational</i>
	} <i>Society.</i>

*Norway, April 13, 1809.*

A true record.

JOB EASTMAN, Clerk.

After taking a short time for consideration of the subject, Mr. Cresey returned the following answer to the aforesaid Call:

To the Congregational church and society in Norway:—  
BRETHREN AND FRIENDS, as you have renewed your invitation expressing as you have formerly done, a desire to have me become your Pastor and teacher, I now proceed to communicate my answer to the same.

The Gospel is at once the most glorious and important object, which ever engaged the attention of man. It originated in the love and compassion of God: and is now in operation in the world for the merciful purpose of destroying sin, of reclaiming fallen men, and guiding them to Heaven and eternal happiness. From the instruction of this Gospel,

which has been ordered to be preached in the world, results that important relation, which subsists between a minister and people. In forming a connexion of this nature, serious great and interesting consequences approach in view. Though this connexion may dissolve, yet the consequences resulting from it remain eternal. A Minister should not choose to take the charge, and moral instruction of a people for any other purpose than to advance the Glory of God, and to seek the salvation and happiness of immortal souls. And a people in settling a Gospel minister should be actuated by the sincere and laudable motives of gaining spiritual knowledge, and promoting their future peace and welfare,

You have invited me to an important situation, to take upon me a solemn charge, to engage in a work, in which the Glory of God, the prosperity of Zion, and your own salvation are deeply concerned. Here my thoughts extend beyond the grave and bring into view the interesting realities of eternity. I shrink from the sacred and solemn task. This is a great resolution to form, it is a weighty trust to devolve on a mortal. After much serious consideration upon your situation, and the sincere attachment, which you have manifested to me, in answer to your invitation as an incorporated society I cordially consent to become your Pastor and teacher; praying that the Lord would make me a faithful embassadour of Jesus Christ; that he would grant his blessing to our expected union, and make it a means of promoting his glory and our eternal salvation.

NOAH CRESEY.

A true record. Attest JOB EASTMAN, Clerk.

In the meantime, Maj. Cummings was pushing the building of the meeting-house along rapidly. The time fixed for Mr. Crescy's ordination was the twentieth day of Sept., 1809. The affairs of the church and society were going along very prosperously, and both minister and people indulged pleasing anticipations in regard to their future prospects.

It will be recollected that the society was to give Mr. Crescy

\$300 as a settlement, to be paid in materials and labor towards erecting buildings; and in the summer of 1809 he erected a house on the hill above the meeting-house. It was raised in August.

In old times, in this town, it was a custom at the raising of buildings, when the frame was completely up, to have what was called a name for the frame, which was always either a poetic couplet, or several verses, according to the taste or inclination of the person giving the name. The ceremony of naming a frame was as follows: The hands on the frame paraded either on the ridge-pole, or front plate, and the two persons who were to be the speakers were stationed, one at each end; a bottle of good liquor was sent up by the owner, and after it had passed from one end of the frame to the other, one of the speakers sung out, "Here's a fine frame, that deserves a good name, and what shall we call it?" The other speaker then gave the name, and when through, the first cried out, "Will that do?" Those on the ground answered, "O yes!" The hands on the frame then gave three rousing cheers, which were responded to by three more from those on the ground; then one closing cheer from the frame, and the bottle of liquor was thrown from the frame by the person who gave the name. The circumstance of raising a house for a favorite minister called forth the following poetic effusion for a name from one of the boys—D. Noyes.

It's customary in this town  
 Our buildings for to name—  
 I'll thank you all who are standing round  
 To listen to the same.

And since the task I undertake,  
 A name for to compose,  
 Do n't censure me if I mistake,  
 And do myself expose.

According to the owner's will  
 We've raised this stately frame;



May love and friendship ever fill,  
And peace adorn the same.

Long life and health may he enjoy,  
And sweet contentment find ;  
And in God's work find full employ  
To exercise his mind.

As the good shepherd guards his sheep,  
In danger them protects,  
So may this man his followers keep,  
Through life their steps direct.

The sacred desk long may he fill,  
With honor and applause ,  
May he be fired with Heav'nly zeal  
To aid Religion's cause.

A pattern of true piety  
I hope this man will stand ;  
And instrumental may he be  
In saving fallen man.

In days of old, the Israelites  
Were through the wilderness  
Led by a cloud, and fire by night,  
Safe to the land of rest.

A fire by night, and cloud by day,  
Instead of, may he stand,  
To guide mankind in the right way  
Safe to the Heav'nly land.

May good success his works attend,  
And wisdom him direct,  
The way of truth may he defend,  
And error's ways reject.

And may the aged quickly break  
Off from their vicious ways,  
The young their vanity forsake  
Now in their youthful days.

And if he with some maiden fair  
In wedlock's bonds shall join,  
May joy attend the happy pair—  
May they much comfort find.

In peace and plenty may they live  
While they on earth shall dwell ;  
In virtuous actions may they strive  
Each other to excel.

Easy and calmly may they sail  
O'er life's tempestuous sea,  
And wafted by each gentle gale  
In peace and harmony.

Through life may he act well his part,  
With honor quit the stage,  
Possessed of a virtuous heart,  
And crowned with good old age.

And since this stately frame we 've raised,  
We 'll gay and cheerful be ;  
With civil mirth we 'll end the day  
In peace and harmony.

The good West-India round this frame  
In plenty shall appear,  
With cheerful hearts we 'll drink the same,  
Our spirits for to cheer.

I hope in peace we all shall part  
When we have spent the day :  
Here 's health to all with all my heart—  
So I no more will say.

So much for raising. Now for ordination.

At a legal meeting of the Congregational society, holden on Wednesday, Aug. 30th, voted to choose a Committee to agree with some person to entertain the Council appointed to ordain Mr. Noah Cressey to the Pastoral care of the Congregational church and people of Norway. Chose Messrs. Joseph Stevens, Nathan Noble, and Amos Hobbs.

Voted that Mr. Benjamin Eastman be President of the singing on the ordination day, and that Joseph Martin, Amos Cummings, and William Hobbs be a Committee to assist and advise with the President for the good regulation of singing on said day. \* Voted that the foregoing Committee advise with Mr. Cresey and agree upon such measures as shall be thought proper, and requisite with respect to waiting upon the Council to the Meeting-house &c. Also voted that Mr. Ephraim Twombly be Marshal of the day, and Jeremiah Hobbs 3d and Ebenezer Watson be assistant Marshals to prevent disorderly conduct at the Meeting-house by thronging the doors, crowding, or any indecent or irregular behaviour.

A true record.      Attest JOB EASTMAN, Clerk.

Thus the reader can plainly perceive that the ordination was viewed as a great and important affair. And truly it was at that day. It was a day of solemn, serious consideration to the religious portion of the community, and a day of hilarity to the younger portion.

The long-anticipated day arrived; the large meeting-house was filled to overflowing; the services were solemn and devout; the singing first-rate; the conduct of the crowded audience was very orderly and still; and finally, everything went off in grand style, and every face beamed with the expression of delight.

After the religious services of the day were over, many of the young people repaired to the new hall of Mr. William Hobbs, a few rods from the meeting-house, and "tripped the light, fantastic toe" to the music of Thomas Wood's fiddle—who, by the way, was a first-rate violin-player, both for sacred and convivial music.

The society then numbered about seventy, and additions continued to be made for several years following; although there was once in a while a loss by withdrawal or by death.

On the 23d day of October, 1809, the committee appointed by said society for the purpose of regulating singing on days

of divine worship, made choice of Benjamin Eastman, first chorister, Joseph Martin, second, Thomas Wood, third, and Amos Cummings, fourth.

From 1809 to 1813, and after, the affairs of the society moved along in a broad and smooth channel, with scarce an obstacle to cause the smallest ripple. It was in the zenith of its glory, and it is a *pity* it could not have sustained its elevated position; but the love of some began to wax cold, and things did not seem so flattering as at first. Nov. 1, 1819, agreeable to an adjournment, the society met, and heard the report of the committee chosen to consult the Rev. Noah Cresey with respect to his preaching for the future—a part of the time with the society in Norway, and the other part in Paris, as should be agreed upon by the two societies; the report was as follows: That the Rev. Noah Cresey did not see cause to give a direct answer. They then tried the vote to see if the society would raise money to pay the Rev. Noah Cresey's salary the ensuing year, which vote was in the negative. The society then voted that their former committee, viz., Joseph Bradbury, Jonathan Cummings, and Deacon John Hor, should inform Mr. Cresey the result of said meeting.—*Extract from the record.*

It fully appears by the records that no serious cause for any misunderstanding existed between Mr. Cresey and the church and society; but as the society, from various causes, had greatly diminished, the remaining members thought the burden rather heavy, and possibly some few were willing to have a change.

Soon after the ordination of Mr. Cresey, as early as May 18, 1810, the church chose John Hor a deacon, in conjunction with Timothy Stone, who was chosen at the organization of the church. On the 20th of May, the following additions were made to the church, viz., Daniel Watson, and Polly, his wife, Abiathar Eastman, and Susan, his wife, Polly Watson, wife of Ebenezer Watson, and Sophia Cresey, wife of Noah

Cresey. May 19, 1811, the following were added: Luther Farrar, and Mercy A. Farrar, his wife, Tabathy Bradbury, wife of Joseph Bradbury, Betsey Flint, wife of James Flint, and Joel Frost. Job Eastman, and Sarah, his wife, were at the same time received into full fellowship, on a letter of recommendation from the church in Fryeburg. Twenty-one members were added to the church, from the settlement of Mr. Cresey, up to May 24, 1816; and at that date, Jonathan Gurney and Benjamin Herring, Jr., were chosen deacons in the church. Sixteen members more were added previous to Dec. 7, 1819, on which day, according to a previous arrangement made between Mr. Cresey and the church and society, an ecclesiastical council met at the house of Mr. Cresey, for the purpose of sundering the relation between him and the church and society over which he had long been settled.

On the 29th of Nov., the church and society chose Joseph Bradbury, Jonathan Cummings, and Deacon John Hor, a committee to appear before the council, which was to convene on the 7th of December. The Council met as arranged, and was composed of the following members: From Bridgton, Rev. Nathaniel Church, Brother Ezra Gould, delegate; Waterford, Rev. Lincoln Ripley, Deacon Ephraim Chamberlain, delegate; Bethel, Rev. Henry Sewal, Deacon Samuel Barker, delegate; Otisfield, Rev. I. G. Merrill, Deacon Elias Hancock, delegate. Council chose Rev. Nathaniel Church, Moderator, and Rev. I. G. Merrill, Scribe; and after due deliberation and hearing a full statement of both sides of the question, closed a long report as follows:

“Happy in finding nothing alleged against the character of the Rev. Noah Cresey, as a reason for his dismission, and as we know nothing of the kind ourselves, We cordially recommend him to the Christian charity and fellowship of God’s people wherever in Divine Providence he may be called. We now humbly, and with fervency commend our Rev.



Brother, and this church and society to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified."

Voted unanimously to accept this report.

Signed in behalf of the Council,

NATHANIEL CHURCH, *Moderator.*

ISAIAH G. MERRILL, *Scribe.*

Thus we see very strong, if not the strongest, religious ties sundered without the imputation of a single fault; so we must conclude that the occurrence happened from no other cause than that the "love of many waxed cold." And *while writing*, the message which St. John was commanded to write to the church of Ephesus bears so strongly upon my mind that I must quote the latter part of it: "Nevertheless, I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first work; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent."

I have thus touched on the most important events up to the time of Mr. Cresey's dismissal; but I must, in justice to him, and my own feelings, say a few words about him in another sphere, than as a preacher. Previous to his coming into the town, our schools, and all educational affairs, were at a low ebb. Our school teachers were picked up wherever they could be found, and many of them were very limited in their literary acquirements. The first settlers had found hard work to get along with their families, and erect comfortable buildings, and in most cases were unable to incur much expense in educating their children; although they felt anxious to do all in their power, still there seemed to be something wanting to produce the desired effect. But Mr. Cresey seemed to be instrumental, under Providence, in greatly improving our affairs in regard to education. He went into our town schools as a teacher, winter after winter; he taught five days and a

half in a week, and wrote his two sermons in the evenings, and on Saturday afternoon. As soon as he got into his house, he took many scholars there, and instructed them in all the different branches of education usually taught in our first academies, and particularly such branches as were necessary to fit them for teachers. In fact, he seemed to infuse a real thirst after knowledge into the minds of all who were within reach of the influence of his exertions. It was but a few years after he came amongst us before we had good teachers of our own to instruct all our own schools, and as many more to send into the neighboring towns. He thus gave a strong and lasting impulse to education, the effects of which were felt for many years, and, in some degree, to the present day. Our school laws were not very definite at that day, but notwithstanding, he visited all our schools with a fatherly care, and his influence was as great and as useful as though the town had paid him fifteen or twenty dollars per year. The writer received much of his education under the instruction of Mr. Cresey, and will ever retain a lively sense of his kindness, and of his assiduity in imparting instruction in every desired branch of study. The following persons studied more or less under his tuition—about the same time and subsequently: Dr. John Grover, Bethel, Rev. Asa Cummings, Portland, Jacob French, deceased, Rev. Josiah Haughton, Hon. T. J. Carter, Levi Stowell, Esq., Rev. Sylvanus Cobb, Samuel Cobb, Esq., Samuel Hilbourn, and S. B. Hilbourn, of Minot, and many others belonging to Norway, and from other towns.

Immediately after the dismissal of Mr. Cresey, the church and society began to concert measures to supply preaching. August 4, 1820, I find Robert Page, Jr., (a candidate for settlement in the ministry,) was chosen as Moderator, in a church-meeting; he continued to preach with them a few months—the time not exactly known.

August 10, 1821, I find, at a regular meeting of the Con-

gregational Church, the Rev. Joseph Walker was chosen Moderator. This shows about the time Mr. Walker began his ministerial labors in Norway; and it appears on the 10th of Nov., 1821, the church and society voted to give him a call to settle with them, in connection with the Congregational Society in Paris, and to preach one-half of the time, alternately, in each place. The call was formally given on the 12th of Nov., and an answer in the affirmative returned Nov. 27th. But the records do not say when the ordination took place, nor where.

The members of the society at this time numbered about seventy; and the number admitted into the church from the dismissal of Mr. Cresey up to the close of Mr. Walker's labors, appears to be sixteen; and it seems that his labors closed about the beginning of the year 1826, as I find that on July 6, 1826, "at a regular meeting of the church, voted that H. A. Merrill be requested to take the records, and act as Scribe of the church."

"Sept. 6, 1826. After preparatory lecture, 13 active members present, Voted, unanimously, to adopt as their *Creed and Covenant*, the printed copy adopted by many of the Congregational Churches in this County.

Attest H. A. MERRILL."

I find in the Society records of Sept. 19, 1826—"Met agreeable to adjournment. Voted, 1st, to give the Rev. Henry A. Merrill an invitation to settle over the Congregational Church and Society in Norway for five years from the second of April last past."

Chose, by the church, Joseph Bradbury, Deacon Benjamin Herring, and Joel Frost, a committee to extend a Call to Mr. Merrill to settle.

It appears the said committee performed the duty devolving on them, and received an answer in the affirmative; and the same Committee were appointed to wait on the Council to be convened at the dwelling-house of William Hobbs, on Tuesday

the first day of November, for the installation of the Rev. Henry A. Merrill over the Congregational church and society in Norway.

I find no definite record of the time when Mr. Merrill closed his ministerial labors, but it was, probably, about the end of the year 1834. Near the commencement of Mr. Merrill's ministration, or soon after, there seemed to be a great awakening, and nineteen (all females but three) were added to the church; and during the remainder of his labors, upwards of thirty more—some of them by recommendation, but mostly by profession. Some severe cases of discipline occurred, as is almost always the case in all churches and families. On the 15th of Nov., 1834, I find a committee was chosen to settle with Mr. Merrill, and confer with him in calling a council for his dismissal.

The next thing, above common-place affairs, is a "meeting of the Church at the dwelling-house of William Hobbs, Sept. 15. 1836. Voted to raise a standing Committee to examine Candidates for admission into the Church. Chose Rev. Charles Soule, Dea. John Hor, Dea. Benj. Herring, and Joel Frost."

Thus it appears that Rev. Charles Soule had commenced his labors as a preacher previous to this time; and was installed June 7th, 1837, under a contract for five years. The records are rather meagre during this time, but from personal knowledge, I am convinced that affairs moved along about in their ordinary channel; nothing very remarkable occurring either in the church or society, excepting the taking down of the old meeting-house, built by Maj. Jonathan Cummings, in 1808-09, and building a new house on the same site. The new house is much smaller than was the old one, and is very handsomely finished; it would accommodate the society as well as any other house, if they chose to be so accommodated.

At a legal meeting of the Congregational society, held on the 2d day of July, 1845, they proceeded as follows:

1st, Chose Dudley Woodbridge, Moderator.

2d, Chose Simon Stevens, Clerk, James Flint, Jacob Bradbury, and Amos T. Holt, Assessors, and Simon Noble, Treasurer.

3d, Voted that the arrearage of interest on the ministerial fund up to May, or June, last, be paid to Rev. Mr. Soule. Voted that the assessors get up a subscription to hire the Rev. Charles Packard to preach six weeks, alternately, at the Congregational meeting-house at the center of the town, and in the Village. Voted that the Clerk write in behalf of the Society to the Rev. Mr. Packard, when the money shall have been raised to pay him.

At this meeting it appears that twenty members were added to the society.

On the 17th of Feb., 1846, I find it "voted that the Congregational Church and Society in Norway give the Rev. Charles Packard a call to become their Pastor for the term of five years."

It appears by a subsequent record, under date of April 7, 1846, that the committee extended an invitation to Mr. Packard to settle over the church and society for five years, and received an answer in the affirmative; the first Wednesday in May, following, was fixed on as the day of ordination.

Mr. Packard continued to labor with the church and society till the spring of 1850, and was succeeded by the Rev. H. W. Strong, who is the present pastor and teacher. During Mr. Packard's ministry, fourteen members were added to the church, and four more since Mr. Strong commenced preaching in the place. The whole number of members of the church, of both sexes, at this time, is one hundred and five.

The much-lamented Luther Farrar, Esq., previous to his death in 1812, bequeathed \$20 to the Congregational church, for the express purpose of purchasing suitable vessels for their Communion Service; which sum was promptly paid over, and appropriated for the purpose intended by the donor.



It appears that a Sabbath School Society, in the Congregational church, was organized May 11, 1822, and continued in operation, during the summer season, until the 12th of May, 1832, when it underwent a new organization, and became an auxiliary to the Sabbath School Union. A Tract Society was also organized Nov. 29th, 1827, for the gratuitous distribution of religious tracts among the families of the town.

There is a small "ministerial fund" belonging to the Congregational society, which accrued from the sale of land granted for that purpose by the State, when a part of Massachusetts. It produces only \$11 per annum at this time.

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#### BAPTIST DENOMINATION.

The Baptist church and society claim the next notice in point of time; and though their number is not so large as those already noticed, yet in this town they have always maintained a very steady and consistent course. Not being in possession of the records of the society, I shall avail myself of the Minutes of the Oxford Baptist Association, so far as relates to the Baptist church in Norway; they were furnished me by Elder Reuben Milner.

"A small church was constituted, consisting of ten members, in 1806. The original members were dismissed from the church in Paris in order to form a church in Norway. For several years Baptist Ministers visited the place with little success, as this was one of the strong-holds of error, and the pure gospel was disregarded by a majority of the people; yet the gospel has proved the power of God to the salvation of many souls.

PASTORS.—The first pastor was John Wagg, who was ordained October, 1806. and officiated until 1809, with small success. Elder John Haynes was chosen Pastor in 1827, and resigned in 1836. During this period a considerable number were added to the Church. Reuben Milner was received as Pastor the same year, and continued till March,

1845, when Joseph B. Mitchell, a licentiate from Boston, preached for the church one year, and then was dismissed. Since that time R. Milner has supplied the church most of the time till the present.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.—Previous to 1829 the church had no regular place of worship. They now began to feel that it was time to open a public sanctuary. Towards accomplishing this object Mr. John Rust (a son of the old proprietor of Rustfield) a worthy member of the church, made the first sacrifice by the gift of a lot of land, on which to build a meeting-house. The church encouraged by this act of pious interest, purchased the meeting-house owned by the Universalists, and moved it to the spot given by Brother Rust, and it now remains their place of worship.

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH—*Clerks*.—The first was Rufus Bartlett, who continued to serve the church till increasing infirmities disabled him from further service, and Brother Asa Thayer was chosen in his place. *Deacons*.—Brother William Parsons was the first Deacon, and fulfilled his office to the satisfaction of the church; he was succeeded by Martin Stetson, their present Deacon.

REVIVALS.—In June, 1840, we had a powerful revival of religion in the town. Eight were baptized and added to the church. Since that time we have had no additions, and the greater number of our aged members are dead, so the church at present is very small; yet the church still hopes and prays, 'Lord revive thy work.' "

In behalf of the church,

REUBEN MILNER.

The present number of members in the church is thirty-eight; and there probably are more who consider themselves as belonging to that society, and render pecuniary assistance in supporting their preachers.

The writer was personally acquainted with John Wagg, their first settled minister, and has heard him preach many times, both in houses and barns. He told the writer that in his

younger days he was very illiterate, and awfully profane; and that when he was married he could not read, or write a word. But about that time his heart being touched with a lively sense of his wickedness, and believing that a gracious God had given him a new heart, and blotted out his sins from the book of remembrance, he felt a strong desire to read the word of God, in which he believed was contained the words of eternal life; and by turning his attention to reading, by the help of his wife, he soon became quite a proficient in reading the Bible and hymn-book. In process of time he devoted himself to the ministry; and among other places which he visited was Norway. Preaching of any kind, at that time, was rather a scarce article, and his meetings were well attended, not by the Baptist order only, but by very many of other denominations, as well as by those professing no particular creed. As a preacher, his voice and manner were grave and solemn, and his deportment and discourses seemed to produce a religious impression on his audience; and had he possessed such literary attainments as many ministers of the present day, the preachers would have been scarce who could so firmly rivet the attention of an assembly as he. Under his ministration, quite a number of members were added to the church; but, alas! very many of the old members now sleep in the silent grave. Towards the latter part of his ministry, there seemed to be a certain indefinable something that caused a coldness between him and the church, which resulted in his dismissal.

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#### METHODIST DENOMINATION.

I now proceed to say something about the religious denomination called Methodists. But my heart and courage almost fail me, lest I should not be able to do them justice, as I have not a scrap of any record to refer to; but should I fail, they will have this consolation, that "the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but God looketh on the heart."

About the first preacher of this order, in the town, was a Mr. Parker, who preached occasionally in the Village, and in some other parts of the town, about 1812-13; and sometimes other ministers came along and preached, without having any stated times or places for their labors. Thus things progressed for several years. Benjamin Stevens, the oldest son of Jonas Stevens, (one of the first settlers in Rustfield) used sometimes to come from Otisfield, where he then lived, and preach and exhort among the brethren of this order. As early as 1815, and for some time after, Edward Whittle and William Yates, of Greenwood, often, afterwards, known as Father Whittle, and Father Yates, used to come and preach and exhort among the brethren; and many converts to their faith were made under their humble teachings. In a few years, such a field was opened that the Methodist Conference appointed regular circuit preachers to preach at stated times and places in Norway, which helped to make up a regular circuit, in which they were to confine their ministerial labors. The religious affairs of this denomination went along in such manner for many years, but gathering strength and numbers yearly.

The writer can well remember the by-gone days, when the few preachers and exhorters who occasionally came amongst us were looked upon with coldness, if not with disrespect, by some other denominations of professed Christians; but it seems that, like the children of Israel when in the land of Egypt, the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied; and they soon became so numerous as to have their regular preachers, who were located in a circuit embracing one or more towns, according to the numbers of their order; and it seems that it is a regulation of their order to appoint, at their yearly conference, each circuit preacher to his particular field of labor, where they often remain two years, if the preacher and people desire such continuance.

Previous to 1837, the Methodists had no house, other than school-houses or dwelling-houses, in which to hold their meetings; and sometimes, in warm weather, in some barn, or grove. But many were the anxious desires to have a meeting-house (like other denominations) in which they could meet for the public worship of God. Pride, convenience, and piety, are all powerful stimulants to action, especially if the object to be obtained be a laudable one; and surely no one can doubt the laudableness of their exertions to provide a house for public worship. Accordingly, in 1837, they erected an elegant and convenient house of worship about midway between the Village proper, and the Steep Falls. The next year, the Methodists in the upper part of Norway, and some in the southwesterly part of Greenwood, erected another house of worship about three-fourths of a mile west of Swift's Corner, where they have preaching nearly all the time, that is, on the Sabbath. They have likewise built a small, snug house and barn near Noble's Corner, for the accommodation of their minister, who is appointed for that circuit, from time to time, by the officers of their yearly conference. The meeting-house in the upper part of the town was dedicated June 19, 1839. In consequence of a Methodist meeting-house being built at South Paris, they do not have constant preaching in their house in the Village, as their number is small there in comparison with the upper part of the town. According to the best information obtained on the subject, the Class in the Village and vicinity numbers about thirty or forty, and in the upper part of the town probably between seventy-five and one hundred. Thus we see that from a small beginning they have grown to a large and respectable religious church and society, in point of numbers and Christian Graces; and may both preachers and hearers always remember, "that Paul may plant, and Apollos may water, but GOD giveth the increase."



## MILITARY HISTORY.

As I have now disposed of the religious affairs of the town, (which has been a serious matter with me, so far as writing is concerned, and ought to be with *all* in practice,) I shall now devote a small space to the military history;—as the science of arms was considered of great importance by our forefathers, and by many who are now upon the stage of action. And it is all right that it should have been so considered; for, under the the guidance of Divine Providence, it was the powerful instrument which achieved our Independence, and gave us a rank among the nations of the civilized world. Without it, our glorious Declaration of Independence must have fallen ingloriously to the ground, and would have become a by-word and a reproach to us as a people; and long before this it would have been among the things which are forgotten.

Early in the winter of 1807, William Reed, who was the first Ensign chosen in the company at its organization, obtained his discharge, and at the May inspection, Amos Town was chosen to supply his place. After the lamented death of Capt. Anthony Bennett, in the spring of 1808 Ward Noyes was chosen Captain, Amos Town, Lieutenant, and Ephraim Twombly, Ensign. The company of militia at that time numbered about 120 in all; for sick soldiers were scarce then, and a regimental surgeon hardly had to black a piece of paper by giving a certificate for inability to perform military duty. Beside the militia company, there was a company of cavalry raised in the regiment, and the town of Norway furnished several privates and non-commissioned officers in that company, and one commissioned officer, viz., Lieut. Nathaniel Bennett, a twin brother to Capt. Anthony Bennett. In the winter of 1808–9, Capt. Ward Noyes, with the consent and approbation of his company, petitioned the General Court and Governor of Massachusetts, to have the company divided, and

form a new company. He obtained the prayer of said petition, as appears by General Orders, Head Quarters, Boston, March 27, 1809. This division left the companies about equal in numbers, but the south company was without officers, all the commissioned officers falling within the north company. June 27, 1809, the south company met according to regimental orders, and made choice of Bailey Bodwell, Captain, William Twombly, Lieutenant, and Daniel Holt, Ensign. In the winter of 1809-10, Capt. Ward Noyes resigned his commission, and obtained his discharge. On the 7th of May, 1811, Lieutenant Amos Town was elected Captain, and Ensign Ephraim Twombly, Lieutenant; on the 23d of August, William Parsons, Jr., was elected Ensign.

Pursuant to order from the Commander-in-chief of the militia of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Captains Amos Town, of the north company, and Bailey Bodwell, of the south company, made drafts from their respective companies as follows: From Capt. Town's company, privates—Benjamin French, John Hobbs, Josiah Hill, Jr., Cad F. Jones, Enoch Merrill, Jr., Benjamin Peabody. From Capt. Bodwell's company—Jared Buck, drummer, Moses Houghton, Daniel Noble, Enoch Knight, Jeremiah Farmer, Nathan Coy, William Corson, Samuel Jordan. This detachment, however, was not called for, but were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march at the shortest warning. On the 18th of June, 1812, Congress declared war against Great Britain, and this declaration caused the minute-men to burnish up their arms, and put their shooting apparatus in the best order possible.

In the fall of 1812, Capt. Bailey Bodwell undertook to raise a company of volunteers to serve one year in the war; and late in the season obtained a full company from this and neighboring towns. After completing the complement of men, they chose Bailey Bodwell for their Captain, William Twombly, Lieutenant, and William Reed, Jr., and Gustavus

A. Goss, of Paris, second and third Lieutenants; they finally marched to Burlington early in the winter. Bodwell, on account of some improper conduct, left the army and returned home, some time in the summer of 1813; but the company generally served out their year, and then mostly returned home. Seth Pike, a son of Dudley Pike, died in this campaign, as also did Jacob Tubbs, Jr., a son of Jacob Tubbs. Joseph Dale came home sick, and never recovered; he died in a few months, leaving a family of nine children to the care of his widow, with little or nothing for their support.

It appears by the record that Lieut. William Twombly obtained his discharge in the summer of 1813; and on the 11th of September, William Parsons, Jr., was promoted to Lieutenant, and Cad F. Jones was elected Ensign. The company then had 70 privates, exclusive of commissioned officers and Sergeants; and the south company numbered nearly as many more, altogether making quite a formidable military force.

Sometime in the summer of 1816, Capt. Amos Town was promoted to the rank of Major, and subsequently to Colonel of the regiment; and as a natural consequence, by regimental order, the company met and elected Lieut. William Parsons, Jr., for Captain, Ensign Cad F. Jones, for Lieutenant, and John Whitmarsh, Ensign.

On the 10th of Oct., 1815, a Court Martial convened at Paris, for the trial of Capt. Bailey Bodwell, on several charges exhibited against him by Enoch Knight, and fourteen others. After hearing all the testimony and arguments, *pro* and *con*, the Court decided that Capt. Bailey Bodwell be removed from office, and disqualified for holding any military office under the Commonwealth for one year.

In the meantime, Ensign Daniel Holt had resigned his commission; and according to regimental orders, the south company met in the Village, their usual place of parade, on the 23d of March, 1816, and made choice of Henry Rust, Jr., Captain, John Millett, Jr., Lieutenant, and Isaac Ben-

nett. Ensign: all of whom accepted, as military offices, at that period, were considered matters of high importance.

At the May inspection, in 1818, the company, then commanded by Henry Rust, Jr., "after inspection, the reading of the law, and partaking of some refreshment, was marched to the ground selected for the purpose, and attended to target-firing. The judges appointed for that purpose, awarded the first prize, \$5, to Mr. E. F. Beal for the best shot; the second, \$3, to Mr. Stephen Greenleaf; and the third, \$2, to Mr. Malachi Bartlett."

Perhaps some of the great guns among the modern peace societies, and other modern reformers, may turn up their noses and sneer at such historical matter as this; but they ought to remember that our forefathers, and even many who are now upon the stage, have *seen* the *times* when a good military force, well equipped, with twenty-four ball cartridges in their boxes, was a much more solid argument against an invading foe, and made a far deeper impression, especially if used, than all their paper manifestoes. But still we should all rejoice to see the time arrive, "when men shall beat their swords into plow-shares, and their spears into pruning-hooks, and learn war no more;" but the present aspect of things does not look much like such a conclusion.

I ought to have stated, in the proper place, that in the fall of 1814, early in October, the militia in this vicinity was called to Portland to aid in defending that place against an expected attack from a naval squadron of Great Britain, which hovered around our shores. Most of the soldiers marched off in high spirits, but some felt *quite unwell*. Happily, they did not come in contact with the enemy; and a few days after their arrival in Portland, a detachment was made from the whole—probably about one-sixth part—and the rest returned home, very well satisfied with going a soldiering. The drafted men served about one month, or a little more.

On the 27th of Aug., 1818, the north company was called

out for a choice of officers, as Capt. William Parsons, Jr., had just been promoted to a Major, (and in regular rotation afterwards to Brigadier General.) The company promoted Lieut. Cad F. Jones to Captain, Ensign John Whitmarsh to Lieutenant, and elected David Noyes, Ensign. Previous to the May inspection, in 1820, Capt. Jones had resigned, and the company on that day proceeded to make choice as follows: John Whitmarsh, Captain. David Noyes, Lieutenant, and Thompson Hall, Ensign. Previous to May 12, 1821, Capt. Henry Rust, Jr., had retired from office; and according to orders, the south company met for the purpose of electing a Captain, and filling other vacancies; John Millett, Jr., was promoted to Captain, Isaac Bennett to Lieutenant, and Amos Millett elected Ensign. Previous to the 10th of April, 1823, Ensign Amos Millett was selected as one of the Aids of Gen. William Parsons, Jr., and on that day the company elected John Richards (now John Lee) as Ensign. Previous to April 9, 1823, Ensign Thompson Hall was appointed Brigade Inspector, and in consequence the north company met on that day, and elected Jeremiah Foster as Ensign. May, 6, 1823, the south company made choice of Ensign John Richards for Lieutenant, and Malachi Bartlett for Ensign. About this time, Henry W. Millett was promoted to the office of Major of the battalion of cavalry in this brigade. Capt. John Whitmarsh having retired from his command in the north company, said company met on the 2d of October, 1824, and elected Lieut. David Noyes, Captain, Ensign Jeremiah Foster, Lieutenant, and Nathan Foster, Jr., Ensign. Previous to Oct. 25th, 1824, Capt. John Millett, Jr., having been promoted to a Major, (and subsequently to Colonel) the south company met on that day, and chose Lieut. John Richards, Captain. Henry C. Reed, Lieutenant; and the following July Thomas J. Cox was chosen Ensign in the same company. Prior to the 8th of April, 1826, having reaped a large harvest of military glory, and resigned his commission, Capt.



David Noyes took leave of his company, which met on that day, and promoted Lieut. Jeremiah Foster to Captain, and elected Benjamin F. Hall, Lieutenant, and William Needham, Ensign, (Ensign Nathan Foster, Jr., being removed from us by death on the 19th of January previous.) After the resignation of Capt. Jeremiah Foster, the company, on the 22d of Aug., 1828, promoted Lieut. B. F. Hall to Captain, William Needham to Lieutenant, and elected Ansel Town, Ensign. It appears that after the resignation of Capt. John Richards, in process of time the other two commissioned officers also resigned their commissions, and Aug. 11, 1830, the south company elected Joseph Bennett, Captain, Hiram Millett, Lieutenant, and William Hayes, Ensign. In 1831, Capt. B. F. Hall retired, and Ensign Ansel Town was chosen Captain, and William Stevens, Ensign; and on the 24th of Oct., 1832, William Stevens was promoted to Lieutenant, and Henry L. Noyes was elected Ensign. Prior to Sept. 13th, 1832, Capt. Joseph Bennett having been promoted to the rank of Major, the south company on that day promoted Hiram Millett to Captain, William Hayes, to Lieutenant, and elected Cephas Sampson Ensign. On the 20th of April, 1836, Capt. H. Millett and Lieut. Wm. Hayes having resigned their offices, the south company met, and Ensign Cephas Sampson was elected Captain, William Noble, Lieutenant, and Alanson M. Dunham, Ensign. They continued to serve the company for several years, till Capt. Sampson resigned, and was succeeded by Lieut. William Noble, and Ensign Dunham was promoted to Lieutenant; after a while they both resigned their commissions. Since that time several abortive attempts have been made to elect officers. David Sanborn was the last Captain elected in this company. He has never called the company out since he was commissioned, and he informs the writer that he has obtained his discharge. Previous to the first Tuesday in May, 1835, Capt. Ansel Town, of the north company, was promoted to the rank of Major, and Lieut. William Stevens

was raised to Captain, Henry L. Noyes to Lieutenant, and Amos F. Noyes was elected Ensign. Prior to May, 1836, Henry L. Noyes resigned his commission on account of lameness, and Amos F. Noyes succeeded him as Lieutenant; Alva Hobbs was chosen Ensign. Sometime in the summer of 1836, Amos F. Noyes was promoted to Captain, Alva Hobbs to Lieutenant, and Washington French was elected Ensign. At the time of the Madawaska war, Capt. Amos F. Noyes, Lieut. Alva Hobbs, and Ensign Washington French were detailed as officers to march to Augusta, where they gained bloodless laurels with the rest of the officers and soldiers in that campaign, and received the praise, from the soldiers under their command, of being strict in discipline, but attentive to the wants and comforts of those under them. After this war, Capt. A. F. Noyes was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, Alva Hobbs to Captain, Washington French to Lieutenant, and James French elected Ensign. In 1842, Capt. A. Hobbs having resigned, Washington French was promoted to Captain, James French to Lieutenant, and Henry Upton elected Ensign. The next and last change elevated James French to the office of Captain, Henry Upton, Lieutenant, and Ebenezer Crowell, Ensign.

The last-named board of officers in the north company, and Capt. David Sanborn in the south company, were the last of the Military Heroes in the town of Norway—as the militia system in the State has now become defunct. Thus we see the end of an institution which all must acknowledge was formerly of the greatest utility and importance to the State and nation, but which, like all sublunary things, has faded away, and become obsolete. And probably many of the institutions and associations of the present day are doomed to the same inglorious fate. Therefore, let none exult in a momentary triumph: but remember the prophetic declaration of one of our finest poets, who says:

“Princes and lords may flourish, or may fade:  
A *breath* can make them, as a *breath* has made.”

I shall now, after humbly asking leave, go back to the old track, where I left off to take up the religious and military affairs, and commence with 1811; but before entering upon the affairs of that year, I will mention a few items which escaped my recollection at the proper time and place.

Samuel Ames, our venerable miller, had a child, aged sixteen months, drowned in the mill-pond in 1802.

In 1806, William Reed, Esq., our first post-master, had a sprightly little boy, aged three or four years, killed in the Village in a very sudden manner. His workmen had taken off the short cart-body for some cause, and left it standing on one end, by propping it up. Several little children, playing in the street, happened to get around this cart-body, and probably endeavored to climb upon it, when it fell upon this little boy, and killed him almost instantaneously. Thus were the fond hopes of the parents blasted in a moment. It was their oldest child.

In 1808, Daniel Town came to Norway, from Andover, Mass., and set up the blacksmith business at Fuller's Corner. He continued the work for many years, and was succeeded, in another shop, by his son-in-law, P. D. Judkins, who, two or three years ago, sold out his stand to E. R. Merrill, and went to farming. Town was the first blacksmith in the upper part of Norway, and at that time the inhabitants thought it a great convenience. Stephen Latham, about the same time, had a little shop near the Corner, for making nails. Wrought nails were then in vogue, and were worth one shilling per pound. He made most of his nails from refuse iron, such as old horse-shoes, ox-shoes, and other old affairs, which farmers could pick up. Maj. Cummings, while building the meeting-house, purchased his nail-rods in Portland, hauled them to Norway, and Mr. Latham made the nails; and some of us frequently had to go to Latham's shop to get nails to use about the house. Cut nails, above the size of shingle and clapboard nails, were hardly in use at that period.

The want of a store was considerably felt, in the upper part of the town. In 1807, Deacon John Hor put up a frame for a small store on a corner of his land, near Fuller's Corner; in 1808, William Lessley moved it across the road, partly finished it, and sold out to Uriah Holt, Esq.; he fitted up the building, and Aaron Wilkins commenced trade in 1810, and traded there about three years. The store then stood unoccupied until May, 1817, when William Pingree went into it; he traded about one year, and sold out to Jonathan Swift and Ansel Field. In about two years after, Swift bought out Field, and has been in trade in that place most of the time since. He, however, let his store to William Pingree in 1827, who occupied it about two years. He has sometimes had a partner, but at present the trade is conducted by his only son, Newton Swift. There has been a large quantity of goods sold at that Corner. Another store has recently been put up there by E. R. Merrill. I have thus run along with the story of the little place, just to show its beginning and progress.

Town officers for 1811: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Nathan Noble, Solomon Millett, Henry Rust, Selectmen; William Hobbs, Collector. Joshua Smith, Representative.

Total valuation, \$48,204. Number of polls 224.

Money tax.	For schools,	-	-	\$600.00
Support of poor, and town charges,		-	-	140.00
State tax,	-	-	-	77.33
County tax,	-	-	-	115.42
Total,				<hr/> \$932.75
Highway tax on common roads,		-	-	\$1244.93
For a new County road to Waterford, through the Hall neighborhood,		-	-	304.41
Total highway tax,				<hr/> \$1549.34

The traders, as they were then called, stood on the valuation, for store and goods, as follows :

William Reed,	-	-	-	\$110,00
Joshua Smith,	-	-	-	60,00
Cox and Robinsen,	-	-	-	200,00
William Hobbs,	-	-	-	45,00
Aaron Wilkins,	-	-	-	160,00

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Value of stores and goods,	-	-	-	\$575,00
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This year was marked by very small additions to the population. The new immigrants were—James Small, James Bickford, John Small, John Thurston. Those living in the town, and becoming of age: Ebenezer Hobbs, Samuel Pike, James Crockett.

Town officers for 1812: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Nathan Noble, Solomon Millett, Uriah Holt, Selectmen; William Hobbs, Collector. Joshua Smith, Representative.

Money tax.	Schools,	-	-	\$600,00
Poor, and town expenses,	-	-	-	130,00
State tax,	-	-	-	138,66
County tax,	-	-	-	118,32
Extra County tax,	-	-	-	118,32

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Total,	-	-	-	\$1105,30
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Highway tax, including extra roads. \$1355,73. Number of polls, 242.

New immigrants: Edmund Bickford, George W. Cummings, Frye H. Eastman, Josiah Hill, Jr., Lemuel Lovejoy, William Noyes, Brackett Marston, William Pierce, Nathaniel Shaw, John Shed, Joel Town, Levi Whitman, Daniel H. Warren, Hosea White. Those arriving of age: Rufus Bartlett, Jr., Benjamin French, Israel Millett, Robert Pike, Job Perry, Melvin Pool, Asa Pool, Nathaniel Stevens. There was a large accession this year, but the reader must not conclude that the town retained all the additions noticed—as many of the young men, and some old and middle-aged, yearly left the place, either by removal to other places, or by death.

Town officers for 1813: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua



Smith, Treasurer; Nathan Noble, Uriah Holt, Joshua Crockett, Selectmen; Jacob French, Collector. Levi Whitman, Esq., Representative.

Amount of valuation, \$51,408. Number of polls, 230; number of scholars over four years and under twenty-one, 483.

Highway tax. Town voted, \$1000.

Money tax.	Schools,	-	-	\$500,00
Poor, and town expenses,	-	-	-	100,00
State tax,	-	-	-	138,66
County tax,	-	-	-	118,32
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Total,	-	-	-	\$850,98

New immigrants since the last valuation: Joseph Clifford, Elijah Hall, Jeremiah Henley, James Muuroe, Bela Noyes, Charles Newell, Abner Pingree, Moses Roberts, Samuel Lord, Andrew Gould, John Haynes, Stephen P. Watson, William Morrell, Asa Noyes, Levi Frank, Joseph Dolley, Josiah Hill, Artemas Rawson. Those who resided in town and had become taxable: Joshua Crockett, Jr., Peter Frost, William Frost, John Needham, Jr., William Pingree, Henry R. Parsons, Amos Stevens.

In the course of 1812, the "Lee Grant," so called, was purchased by Edward Little, Esq., and this year was taxed to him; it was also lotted out, and offered for sale. This had been much desired by many young men in town for several years.

Near the close of this year, or early in Jan., 1814, a very remarkable incident took place, in the disappearance of a young man, a son of Benjamin Witt, the first blacksmith in Rustfield. On Thursday morning Mr. Witt killed a couple of hogs for the market, and about noon started for Portland, leaving his son, who had assisted him in butchering, to see to the cattle, &c., in his absence. In the afternoon, the weather being stormy, Mrs. Witt noticed that the cattle were not put up in the barn, but concluded that her son had gone to school; she therefore gave herself no uneasiness until the other chil-

dren returned from school, and she learned that he had not been there. They sent to several of the neighbors to inquire for him, but could learn nothing. The next day diligent search was made, but no trace of him found; and the search was continued for several days by many men, sometimes, probably, nearly one hundred, but without success. Mr. Witt reached home on Saturday night, with a heavy heart, having heard the sad news on his way. There were eight or ten inches of snow on the ground, which lay very still and level, and every track was followed to its termination, but nothing led to the least discovery of his whereabouts: and no intelligence has ever been gained of him to the present day. Mr. Witt was one of the volunteers in Capt. Bodwell's company, which marched one year before to Burlington; he took his two oldest sons with him as soldiers in that campaign, and had returned in safety but a few days before this wonderful disappearance of his son. To add to the strangeness of the thing, he went away with his old clothes on, which he wore about the butchering, leaving a new suit in his chest, and also a considerable lot of change. Some almost harbored the idea that he was murdered; but the dead make no revelations, nor have the living, on this subject.

Town officers for 1814: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Nathan Noble, Uriah Holt, Joshua Crockett, Selectmen; Jacob French, Collector. Levi Whitman, Esq., Representative.

Highway tax, \$1200.

Schools,	-	-	-	-	\$500.00
Poor, and town expenses,	-	-	-	-	130.00
State tax,	-	-	-	-	138.66
County tax,	-	-	-	-	118.32

Total money tax,	-	-	-	-	\$886.98
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There is a little obscurity about matters this year, and I shall only add as new-comers—Philip Hezelton, Jonathan

Hall, Ichabod Leighton, Adam Bradbury, a son of Joseph Bradbury, and Alvin Boyden.

Town officers for 1815: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Nathan Noble, Uriah Holt, Aaron Wilkins, Selectmen; Jeremiah Hobbs, Jr., Collector. Levi Whitman, Esq., Representative.

Valuation, \$50,217. Number of polls 245. Highway tax, as assessed, \$1255,24.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$218,71
Town and County tax, by the bills,	-	-	-	-	922,66
Total money tax,	-	-	-	-	\$1141,37

There was quite an accession to the population this year; but it is possible that some of them came in 1814, as the old papers of that year were rather lean. Immigrants: James D. Sawyer, Allan Bartlett, Josiah Smith, William Cordwell, William Corson, Charles Cleaves, John Davis, David S. Hall, Thompson Hall, Abram Jordan, John Jordan, Nathan Morse, Ephraim Crockett, Samuel Shackley, Isaac Smith, John Twitchell, Peter Town. Old settlers' sons as follows: Simeon Noble, Joshua Perry, Jonathan Stevens, Nathaniel P. Shed, Nathaniel Young, Jr., Samuel Crockett, John Hobbs, John Witt. The opening of the "Lee Grant" for settlement contributed some towards an increase of population; the whole tract began to be dotted with openings and houses, (some of them log-houses) and other beginnings towards making farms.

Towards the latter part of February, the news of peace reached us, and joyful news it was. The Treaty of Ghent was ratified by our government Feb. 17, and our jollification and rejoicing occurred about the 20th. In 1814, I left my school to make ball-cartridges for the soldiers when they marched to Portland, but now I left it rather early in the afternoon to help the boys, and even the men of all classes, make preparations for their evening rejoicing. Several of the larger houses were handsomely illuminated, and the delightful

word, "PEACE," exhibited in many a window. The boys had a little home-made artillery-piece, and although gunpowder was very dear, there was a plenty furnished; crackers and squibs were also added to help along; and to cap the climax, uncle Nat Bennett happened to have a tar-barrel, with a few gallons of tar in it, which was sent for, mounted on a hand-sled, set on fire, and drawn through our beautiful street, amidst the popping of crackers and squibs, the roar of the boys' artillery, and the loud huzzas of boys of "larger growth." And though there might have been some diversity of opinion in regard to the policy of the war, one thing is certain, that here in the country, and in the sea-ports, all were united in hailing with joy the news of peace. But perhaps some of my young readers will ask for what cause this war was declared by our government? I will tell them as well as I can. At that time, and for several years previous, Europe was convulsed with war, and England stood almost alone in resisting the power of France, which, under the lead of the great Napoleon, was fast climbing towards the pinnacle of military glory—that is, to universal rule in Europe. England of course wanted, and probably needed, all her seamen—as her naval force was her main instrument both of defence and attack. Under a long-cherished, though false-founded, notion that she had a right to take her own native subjects, in whatever land or ship they might be found, she had long made a practice of searching our merchant-vessels, and sometimes armed vessels, to find British-born subjects; and oftentimes would make mistakes, and impress American-born seamen. This assumption of the right of search was a crying sin in the sight of our people and government; and, among a multitude of other grievances, this caused the war of 1812. An exemption from unreasonable searches and seizures is guaranteed to the people of the United States, and of this State, in the strongest constitutional manner; and therefore ought to be forever maintained at all hazards. The

British government has since the war quietly yielded the right of search.

This year (1815) seems fraught with many incidents of interest to myself, and doubtless was to many others. In the spring I left the Village school, where I had been employed for five successive winters in the town school, and during the intermediate summers had been engaged in a private school, or what now-a-days would be termed a high school. About the close of the winter school, some friend, Capt. Rust, Esquire Reed, Mr. Bartlett, or some other person, would get up a subscription paper, and go round to get enough subscribed to support a school through the following summer—averaging the expense in proportion to the number of scholars which each subscriber should send. The number of pupils in the winter was generally from eighty to ninety, and in summer about forty. Thus I spent many of my happiest years in Norway Village, teaching the “young idea how to shoot.” After the close of the winter school, we used to have a splendid school exhibition. The scholars were not permitted to devote any of their school hours in preparation for the exhibition; that was done by evening study and rehearsals; and after the close of the term I always gave them one week to prepare for the occasion. The parents erected a stage in the meeting-house, and the ladies furnished their best carpets to cover it, and their best bed-dresses for curtains: and any articles wanted from the stores were always proffered for our use. Good music was furnished to enliven the scene, and we never failed of having a crowded audience. Our excellent superintendent of schools, the Rev. Noah Crescy, always honored us with his presence: and good old Esquire Eastman, with some other privileged old characters, were ever furnished with a seat upon the stage. The scholars, each one ambitious to excel in his parts, and feeling such perfect confidence in their good memory and action, were never known, when on the stage, to make a failure. The parents sat, their counte-



nances beaming with satisfaction, witnessing these early developments, of the oratorical faculties of their offspring. Many of our speakers were very young, and as an illustration of how we "went it" in those days, I will give a little piece of original bombastic egotism, spoken at one of our earliest performances by Henry C. Reed, son of William Reed, Esq.

Respected audience, here behold  
 An orator full six years old,  
 Who at some future day will raise  
 Our nation's fame above all praise;  
 And if to Congress I should go,  
 'T will save our nation's overthrow;  
 For on that floor my voice shall thunder,  
 More eloquent than Troup, or Grundy.  
 If grumbling critics, with sarcastic  
 Tone, should even hint that I'm bombastic,  
 A prettier method of haranguing  
 I'll teach them all by dint of banging;—  
 For know, you grumbling set, that I  
 Am very nearly four feet high;  
 Besides, I always keep a cudgel  
 For those who of my talents judge ill;  
 So if you wish to 'scape a drubbing,  
 Good gentlefolks, pray please to curb in,  
 For I no love nor favor 'll show  
 To such a grumbling, carping crew.  
 In literature I do profess  
 To be quite good, if not the best;  
 I write, and read, and also spell,  
 And many things too much to tell.  
 The Latin *non intelligo*,  
 Likewise the Greek I do not know;  
 But English grammar is my hobby,  
 I mount more oft than papa's nobby.  
 But lest your patience I should tire,  
 I'll stifle my poetic fire;  
 Then I, the wonder of this age,  
 Will make my bow, and quit the stage.

And, as the papers say of new actors when they make their

*debut* on the stage, "he met with unbounded applause." While in this school my health was rather feeble, and sometimes I found it necessary to leave the school for an hour or two: and when this occurred, I selected certain scholars to teach particular branches; and on returning to the school-room after resting, everything would be "all right." Such was the good feeling subsisting between teacher, scholars and parents, that there never was a word of fault found on that, or any other account, though I sometimes left for half a day or more at a time. But there! I won't say another word about my old scholars. In a few weeks after leaving the school, I commenced on a new lot of land, and had to prepare myself to cut down the trees, and pile up the black logs.

Town officers for 1816: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Nathan Noble, Aaron Wilkins, William Hobbs, Selectmen; Moses Ayer, Collector. Levi Whitman, Esq., Representative.

Valuation, \$52,732. Number of polls 264; number of scholars 519.

Highway tax, \$1640,23.

Town tax,	-	-	-	-	\$756,59
State tax,	-	-	-	-	182,67
County tax,	-	-	-	-	236,64

Total money tax,	-	-	-	-	\$1175,90
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New Immigrants: Enoch Crocker, John Rust, Thomas Clark, Benjamin Joseph, William M. Lovejoy, John March, Jeremiah Mitchell, Edward Mitchell, John Phipps, James Varney. Joel Town, Dudley Woodbridge. Old settlers' sons: Lemuel Bartlett, Flavel Bartlett, Thomas Briggs, Cyrus Cobb, Ebenezer Cobb, Jr., Nathan Foster, Jr., Samuel B. Gurney, John Lovejoy, John Noyes, Nathan Noble, Jr., Nathaniel Pike, Samuel Tubbs, John Millett, Jr.

This year was noted for its cold summer, and not only cold, but extremely dry. The spring was unusually cold and back-

ward; there were snow-squalls on the 7th, 8th, and 9th days of June, and on the 7th, plowed ground actually froze in many places.

The spring of 1815 was also very cold and backward. On the 18th day of May a snow-storm commenced, and the next morning the snow was eighteen inches deep on an average. The funeral of Charles Stevens, the oldest son of Nathaniel Stevens, took place on the 19th, and people had hard work to get to the funeral with sleighs, on account of the snow; but the sun shining out warm, carried it off very suddenly.

On the 7th of June, Mr. James Flint, and Jeremiah Staples, a young man living with him, and Mr. Joshua Young, of Greenwood, set out with a large raft of mill-logs from the shore of the pond against the writer's farm, intending to take them down the pond to the mill. The morning was still, but by the time they had reached the middle of the pond, squalls began to rise, and soon the wind blew a gale. Their raft parted its fastenings and went to pieces; Mr. Flint succeeded in getting astraddle of a large log, and Young and Staples were lucky enough to do the same thing, both of them on one log. Thus, in this perilous situation, they floated down the pond, with the waves breaking over them, and running feather-white, for the distance of two miles. When they reached the shore, many men, who had in some way learned their situation, but could do nothing to help them, were there to assist and welcome them to terra firma. They were so chilled and benumbed that they could hardly stand; and it might truly be considered as a wonderful escape from drowning.

About this year, or a little previous, Mr. Jabez Chubb was drowned in Crooked river, between Norway and Waterford, while driving logs, in the spring season. He was an early settler in the town, and married a daughter of Mr. Phineas Whitney, the old soldier.

The crops in 1816 were very much injured by the cold and drought, and an early frost almost destroyed the corn. The

writer this year planted the first corn on his new farm, on a piece of burnt ground by the side of the pond; and when the early frost came, the fog from the pond went over the corn, and saved it from injury in a great degree; and he probably had more sound corn than all north of the center of the town. Seed corn towards spring was worth \$3 or more per bushel; and Maj. Jonathan Cummings, who then owned the Phillips Academy half-township in Greenwood, bought four bushels of seed corn of the writer to furnish the poor settlers, in part, on his new settlement. This was a praiseworthy act of benevolence.

Owing to the great drought, in the fall, the fires made dreadful ravages, and hundreds, even thousands, of acres of forest and woodland were destroyed. Many buildings were in imminent danger, yet only one in this town was burnt; that was a barn belonging to Mr. Samuel Pingree, with all his crops, with which it was well filled.

Benjamin Joseph, mentioned among the new immigrants, did not come here in 1816, but as early as 1807. He was a full-blooded West India negro, from Cuba. When a boy, Dr. Stephen Cummings, of Portland, brought him to that city; but thinking it would be far better for him to be brought up in the country, he let his brother, Maj. Jonathan Cummings, have him, not as a slave, but as a servant. Here he was well-treated, well-fed, clothed and schooled, and when he became twenty-one years of age, had his time and earnings for himself; he was accordingly taxed after becoming of age. His native simplicity, and mild disposition, made him rather a favorite in the family and neighborhood as long as he resided in the place. He afterwards went to Portland, where he still resides, and has a family. He is the only colored person who has lived in the town during the last half century.

Town officers for 1817: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Nathan Noble, Aaron Wilkins, William

Hobbs, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. No Representative chosen.

Valuation, \$49,889. Number of polls 262; number of scholars 558.

Highway tax, by the bills, \$1207,35.

Town tax, - - - -	\$1172,62
State tax, - - - -	182,67
County tax, - - - -	177,48

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Total money tax, - - - - \$1532,77

New immigrants: Israel Dresser, Benjamin Richards, Jeremiah Staples, Jonathan Swift. Old settlers' sons, arriving at twenty-one years of age: Clement Bartlett, Sylvanus Bartlett, John Merrill, Daniel Witt.

The spring and early part of summer were noted on account of the great scarcity of provisions of almost all kinds, owing to the short crops of the year previous. Many families were often destitute of bread for many days together; potatoes were nearly as scarce, and meat not much more plenty. I saw the widow Dale pay \$2,50 for one bushel of rye to feed her fatherless children. Flour was worth here in Norway \$16 per barrel; pork from 17 to 20 cents per pound, and scarce at that; and the war having so recently closed, all store articles were proportionately high.

But Providence did not always frown upon us, for this year the harvest was abundant—perhaps never better. Although pressed by pinching want, people put a great deal of seed into the ground, and everything seemed to grow with great luxuriance. There were hundreds of acres which were burnt over the fall before, and this spring the small stuff was picked up, and rye sown, with a scanty allowance of seed, say, one peck sometimes, and at most, a half bushel to the acre; and the crop was abundant, often twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre. Thus the labors of husbandmen seemed to be blessed in the time of their greatest need.



Town officers for 1818: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Aaron Wilkins, Uriah Holt, Henry Rust, Jr., Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. No Representative chosen.

Valuation, \$49,403. Number of polls 269; number of scholars 556.

Highway tax, by the bills, \$1651,92.

Town tax,	-	-	-	-	\$898,79
State tax,	-	-	-	-	176,67
County tax,	-	-	-	-	88,00

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Total money tax, - - - \$1163,46

New immigrants: William Churchill, Samuel Davis, Martin Girts, Samuel Howe, Henry McKenney, Matthew Lassell, Seneca Landers, Samuel Martin, Samuel Perry, Andrew Richardson, Elijah Whiting, William Yates, James Eastman, Ansel Field. Old settlers' sons: Baker Ames, Benjamin Flint, Jr., Consider Hill, Stephen Jenkins, Solomon Millett, Jr., Henry W. Millett, Bela Noyes, Jr., Evi Needham, William Shed, Silas Shed, William Young, Ezra F. Beal, Lewis Crockett, Solomon Crockett, Henry Pike.

This year, on the 23d day of June, Lemuel Shed was killed while assisting in raising a house for his oldest son, N. P. Shed. The accident happened in the following manner: The house was to be a story and a half high; the west end had been raised and leaned out against two timbers to hold it up while they raised the middle band; Mr. Shed had prepared himself to hold one of the posts, and Capt. Ward Noyes the other; they stood with their backs towards the end that was raised. The hands had just taken hold of the timber to raise it up, when there came a strong gust of wind and blew the end over upon them; the other men seeing the timber falling, made their escape from under it; but the beam struck Mr. Shed on his head, crushing it against the post he was about to hold, and dashing it to pieces in a shocking manner, even.

driving some of the bones into the timbers. He was killed in an instant. It also struck Capt. Noyes on his thigh and knee, breaking his leg very badly. The wife and only daughter of Mr. Shed were both present to see his son's house raised; but instead of witnessing that pleasing sight, they beheld the instantaneous death of a beloved husband and father. Thus suddenly perished the good and faithful old soldier, who had braved the dangers of a seven years' war. Capt. Noyes, after a long confinement, finally recovered, and continued to follow the carpenter's business until his death, which took place April 23d, 1822. He was a very industrious, persevering man, and probably framed and raised more buildings than any other man in the town; as he came here in 1800, just as people were beginning to erect frame buildings. He left a family of nine children.

Town officers for 1819: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, Henry Rust, Jr., Jonathan Woodman, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. No Representative chosen.

Valuation, \$50,496. Number of polls 250; number of scholars 550.

Highway tax, \$2118,14.

Town tax, - - -	\$1060.83
Second assessment, - - -	79.96
State tax, - - -	122.67
County tax, - - -	204.48

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Total money tax, - - - \$1467,94

New immigrants: Thomas Davis, James Corson, Joseph Gammon, Oliver Hale, Hatevil Hall, Charles McKenney, William Lord, Ebenezer Lord, George Lord, Martin Stetson, William Yates, Jr. Old settlers' sons: Ichabod Bartlett, Jeremiah Foster, George French, Reuben Knight, Simon Noble, Charles Pike, Levi Shed, Nathaniel Twombly, Benjamin Witt, Jr., Jabez Chubb, Edmund Frost.

Town officers for 1820: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, Henry Rust, Jr., Jonathan Woodman, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector.

By measures adopted during the preceding year, Maine was separated from Massachusetts, and erected into a separate State. Aaron Wilkins, Esq., was chosen as a delegate from Norway to form the Constitution, and Henry Rust, Jr., was chosen Representative to the first Legislature, which met in Jan., 1821.

Valuation, \$76,671. Number of polls 250; number of scholars 526.

Highway tax on common town roads,	\$1049,74
“ “ on County, or extra roads,	523,81

Total highway tax, - - -	\$1573,55
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Town tax, - - - -	\$960,01
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State tax, - - - -	122,67
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County tax, - - - -	233,79
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Total money tax, - - -	\$1316,47
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New immigrants—very small number: Ambrose Parris, John H. Rand, Horatio G. Cole. Old settlers' sons: Amos Millett, Levi Noyes, William Pool, David Smith, John S. Shed, William Foster, Amos Hobbs, Jr., Simon Stevens, David Noble.

By an old list of voters who voted on the question of separation from Massachusetts, I find the whole number 199.

In the little sketch of the religious affairs of the town, I said something of Maj. Jonathan Cummings, who built the Congregational meeting-house. He was a son of the proprietor of the Cummings Gore, and probably came into the plantation under the most favorable circumstances of any early settler. He was naturally of an obliging, kind disposition, and very cheerful and social in his every-day deportment, which caused him to become a favorite with all who became acquainted with him. From the early settlement of the town

up to nearly the time of his death, there probably was no man in the place who could exercise so great an influence as Maj. Cummings. He was thought to be rich, and, probably was, during part of his life. About 1806, he purchased the half-township, now in Greenwood, belonging to the "Phillips Academy," and gave back a mortgage to secure the payment of the purchase-money. He sold many lots of land, on which the purchasers commenced clearing and building, and he received large quantities of lumber, and a great amount of labor towards these lands, while building the meeting-house; he likewise employed much help about farming, which he carried on largely. He built a saw-mill on the outlet of the little Pemessewassee pond, which did but little business; he also built mills in the Academy half-township, which produced small profit at that early stage of the settlement of Greenwood. Thus things ran along for many years, without any apparent interruption, and the settlement in Greenwood was progressing rapidly, as he was very accommodating in receiving almost any commodity in payment for land. Some paid up in full for their lots, and some had the precaution to insist on his getting an acquittance of their particular lots from the Trustees of the Academy, who held the mortgage; and, to accomplish this, he mortgaged his own farm to them to keep their security good. He was, in the first place, to give \$4500 for the land; and in a few years he sold enough to have paid up the sum, with interest; but, from the multiplicity of his concerns, he applied his receipts to other purposes, while his debt to the Trustees was fast accumulating. Any calculating man can discover that interest money is the "worm that never dies;" and, with him, it ate out all hope of ever being able to extricate himself from his pecuniary embarrassments. About 1819 his affairs were approaching a crisis, and by the spring of 1820 his difficulties so harassed his mind that it seems he could not bear up under the burden. Near the first of May he was driven to such desperation that

he took his razor and repaired to his barn very early one morning, and applied it to his throat, partly severing the windpipe and some large veins; he would have shortly expired had he not been discovered by his wife, who, having occasion to pass by the barn, saw him weltering in his own blood. She took a handkerchief from her neck and bound up his wound, and called for help. A surgeon was summoned with all possible dispatch, and the wound dressed in so careful a manner, that in a few weeks he was restored to tolerable bodily health, and seemed to have become very sensible of the awful deed which he came so near executing. He conversed freely with his friends about the sad affair, and expressed a firm determination never to yield to such wrong impulses for the future. His proud spirit was humbled, and he seemed to acquiesce, and submit to come down from the high position he had occupied. All pitied him; and, in fact, almost forgave him for the rash act he had committed. His creditors felt for him; they even offered to lend a helping hand to keep him up; but all human strength seemed unequal to the task of sustaining his good resolutions, and about the middle of July he put a period to his earthly troubles by cutting the jugular vein on the right side of the neck with his jack-knife. Some time in the forenoon he left the house, telling his wife he was going to the field where his men were mowing; but he went into the nursery a few rods from the house and committed the fatal deed. The writer summoned a coroner's jury, and assisted in taking up the body; and never, never did he behold so horrid a spectacle as that. The wound was below, and a little behind the point of the right jaw, two and a half inches deep, and five-eighths of an inch wide—just the width of the knife. After the wound was given, he shut up the knife, and still held it in his hand when found. The verdict of the jury was, that he put an end to his life in a state of partial derangement. He fell in the full strength and pride of manhood, aged forty-two years. Thus the high hopes



of his interesting family were prostrated, as it were, in a moment. He occupies a little space in our grave-yard, and that is the only spot of ground, of all the Cummings land in Norway, that is now retained by any of the descendants. Thus we may see the instability of all earthly possessions. But I will write no more, for the tears of pity drop at the sad recollection of his untimely end.

Without leave, I will revert back to the winter of 1816. In January, or thereabout, the school-house in district No. 5 was burnt in the night, and many books were destroyed with the building. This was the first school-house built in the town, or rather plantation, as it was built before the town was incorporated. Another house was erected on the same spot the ensuing summer, which gave place to a new one in 1851. The school-house in district No. 1, in the northwest corner of the town, was also burnt in Jan., 1819, and rebuilt in the ensuing summer.

I have traced things up along to the time when Maine became a State, and our town was commencing a new era; but as yet have said nothing about our public-houses; and lest the reader should be fatigued and wish to put up, or take a little refreshment, I will now give some account of them. Joseph Stevens, one of the very first settlers, kept the first tavern in the town, and it was a good one for that early day. He began to put up "strangers and travelers and others" as early as 1800, but had no license until the County of Oxford was organized. He afterwards had a license until he gave up the business, a short time before the organization of the State. About 1806, a Dr. Case came into Norway Village and stopped a year or more, (he did not act the physician much while here,) and opened a tavern in the old Samuel Smith house, on the site now occupied by William C. Whitney's house; but there was not sufficient head to make it go, and he emigrated elsewhere. About 1812, Joshua Smith, Esq., opened a public-house in the Village, and did a good business

till about 1843, when he died, aged 73 years. James Bickford attempted to keep a public-house in the old Samuel Smith house, about 1813, but made rather a failure, and quit the business. In 1807-8, William Hobbs built a large house at the center of the town, and opened a tavern in 1809; he continued it until nearly 1820, but the travel was then small through that part of the town. About 1821, Hezekiah Pingree opened a public-house at Fuller's Corner, in North Norway, but the business was rather small, and he soon abandoned it. After the building of the new County road from Bethel to Norway, which was made passable in 1823, the writer put up travelers as occasion required, and on the 1st of Jan., 1824, he received a license from the town authorities for keeping a public-house, and continued the business until April, 1851, when the railroad rendered it unnecessary for the public accommodation. Innholders' licenses, from the organization of the State, were for many years \$6.25, including the Clerk's fee, amounting to 60 or 75 cents per year, which was paid into the treasury. Increase Robinson, after building his new and commodious house, on the site of the old Samuel Smith house, opened a tavern; but at that time the Village did not seem to require two public-houses, and he continued the business but a few years. William Reed likewise tried a public-house a short time, about 1820. About 1830, Ezra F. Beal fitted up a public-house near the center of the Village, and kept it a few years; and, on removing to Portland, leased the house to Anthony Bennett, (son of Capt. Anthony Bennett,) who, in a few years, was succeeded by his brother, Col. Joseph Bennett. In process of time, Mr. Beal sold the stand to Titus O. Brown, who previously had kept a tavern at Gray Corner for many years, and he and his son-in-law, Mr. Amos Purington, managed the house till about 1842, when Anthony Bennett purchased the stand; he soon after made additions to the house and stable, and fitted up a large and commodious establishment, which he occupied until

Sept. 23, 1851, when all his buildings and most of his furniture were destroyed by fire. But I shall speak of this hereafter. In 1844, William Hayes fitted up a house at the Corner, one mile and three-fourths west of the Village, and entertained strangers and travelers four or five years. About 1846, a company of gentlemen purchased the old tavern-stand so long occupied by Joshua Smith, Esq.; they added a third story to the house, and finished the whole in an elegant and convenient style. When completed, James N. Hall opened a public-house, known as the "Elm House," and managed it a year or more; he was succeeded by S. T. Dutton, who kept the house about a year and a half, when Otis True assumed the management of the establishment, which he yet continues. This is the only public-house in the town at this time.

Town officers for 1821: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, Henry Rust, Jonathan Woodman, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Norway and Hebron were classed together, and a Mr. Greenwood, of Hebron, was Representative.

Valuation, \$77,183. Number of polls 262; number of scholars 591.

Highway tax,	-	-	-	\$1009,43
Tax on County roads,	-	-	-	504,02

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Total highway tax,	-	-	-	\$1513,45
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Money tax, town, County, and State, \$1385,74.

New immigrants: Stephen Cummings, Isaac Clark, Robert Frost, Benjamin Furlong, Thomas Goss, Samuel Jordan, Benjamin Jordan, Henry C. Lawrence, John Morse, Abberdean Pratt, William Rich, John Pike, Jr., Paul Twombly, William Shackley, William Totherly, Zachariah Weston, John Weston, Amos Downing, John Hix. Old settlers' sons: Jacob Bradlury, Nathaniel Bodwell, Nathaniel Cobb, George Frost, Daniel Herring, Darius Holt, Jr., Joseph Lombard, Nathaniel Millett, Jr., Nathan Noble, Jr., Israel Pike, Sylvanus Bartlett.

In the summer of this year, or a previous year, Betsey Gammon fell down the cellar-stairs in Benjamin Fuller's house, and was instantly killed, her neck being broken by the fall. She was living at Mr. Fuller's.

In the winter of 1821, during the first session of the first Legislature of the State of Maine, the "Rust Gore," so called, was annexed to Norway. As before noticed, it lies south of the Waterford three tiers, and probably contains about 1800 acres. By this annexation, five or six families were added to the town, viz.: John Pike, Jr., Benjamin Jordan, William Frost, Robert Frost, Zachariah Weston. They had long desired the annexation; and it was owing to an oversight in draughting the first act of incorporation, that the Gore was omitted.

Town officers for 1822: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, Nathan Noble, William Parsons, Jr., Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Norway classed with Greenwood—Uriah Holt, Representative.

Valuation, \$77,211. Number of polls 275; number of scholars 620.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1300,00
Overlaid in assessing,	-	42,08
Extra road tax, with overlayings,	-	528,95
2d " " " "	-	522,34

Total road tax,	-	-	-	\$2393,37
For schools,	-	-	-	\$600,00
Poor, and town expenses,	-	-	-	200,00
County tax,	-	-	-	338,68
State tax,	-	-	-	177,72
Overlaid in assessment,	-	-	-	25,68
Delinquency of highway tax for 1821,	-	-	-	56,97

Total money tax,	-	-	-	\$1399,05
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The extra road tax this year was large, in consequence of making a new County road half the length of the town, which opened a great thoroughfare from the valley of the Connecticut

river to Portland, and was very much traveled until superseded by the railroad. Many were much opposed to the road at first, but it proved of great utility to Norway Village, and to the public travel.

New immigrants: Benjamin Barrows, Reuben Chandler, John S. French, David H. Gamble, Reuben Hill, John McAllister, Joseph York, Amos Downing, Dr. Asa Danforth. Old settlers' sons: ~~Archelaus~~ Fuller, Edmund Merrill, Jr., Zenas Pool, Moses Ames, Joel Parsons, Nathan Bradbury, Nathan Millett.

In Dec., 1822, Bela Noyes, Jr., (now Bela Noyes) was visited with a severe calamity, by having his house burnt. He was then unmarried, (but approximating very nearly towards that blissful state,) and was finishing his house in order to found a home for a family. A young man, Daniel Major, who had lived several years, previous to this time, with the writer, was at work on the inside of the house, in which he and Mr. Noyes lodged, and cooked their food. On the evening previous to the fire, they went to bed at the usual hour, and about midnight were alarmed by the crackling of flames. They sprang suddenly from their bed, and on opening the door of the room where the fire commenced, it burst upon them with such violence that they were obliged to make their escape in the quickest way possible. Mr. Noyes broke through a panel door, without stopping to open it, and then went out-of-doors through a window, bursting out the sash and glass. They escaped with nothing on but their shirts, and in the midst of a clear, cold December night, in this nude condition, they remained on the spot to save the barn from destruction, as the wind drove the flames and sparks directly upon it for more than one hour; finally, by the aid of a few neighbors who came to their assistance, they saved the barn and its contents. This fire caused quite a loss to Mr. Noyes; though the amount of property was not great, compared with many other losses of this kind, yet it swept off his *little all*—the



earnings of several years of hard labor. Daniel Major had his chest in the house, containing his clothes, tools, pocket-book, &c., with about \$50 in money, and \$200 in notes, and lost everything but his shirt in which he escaped from the flames. The notes were against such men as made no objection to paying him honorably, when called upon; but still it was rather a severe loss to him, as he was a poor orphan boy, and had no father's house for a shelter in his misfortune.

Town officers for 1823: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, James Flint, Elijah Hall, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Uriah Holt, Representative.

Valuation, \$79,015. Number of polls 290; number of scholars 631.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1330.46
Extra road tax,	- - -	839.93

Total,	- . - - -	\$2170.39
Schools,	- - - -	\$600.00
Poor, and town expenses,	- - -	200.00
County tax,	- - - -	260.18
State tax,	- - - -	177.72
Overlaid in the assessment,	- - -	44.49
Delinquency of highway tax for 1822,	- - -	74.29

Total money tax,	- - -	\$1356.68
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New immigrants: Ephraim Brown, Abbot Holt, Lewis Hutchinson, Abijah Ingalls, Jacob Kimball, John R. Swift, John Wolcot. Old settlers' sons: Josiah Blanchard, Jr., Ephraim Briggs, Jr., Edmund Frost, George French, Nehemiah D. Frank, Daniel Hobbs, Jr., Cyprian Hobbs, William Hor, Nathan Hor, Levi Lovejoy, Stephen Lovejoy, Samuel Merrill, Levi Millett, Andrew Mills, Solomon Noble, John Richardson, Jr., Elliot Smith, Job E. Stevens, Daniel Watson, Jr., John Andrews.

This year, in the spring, or in June, James French (son of James French, the early settler) had the misfortune to

have his house burnt, together with considerable other property. The house was built by his father in 1806.

In July, this year, a saw-mill built by Maj. Elijah Hall, and his son, Thompson Hall, in 1819, was burnt, and much lumber lying about the mill was also destroyed. The accident was caused by a fire running in the woods, it being extremely dry at that time. The owners rebuilt the mill, and about 1830 sold it to Isaiah Hall and Darius Holt, Jr. In 1836, or thereabout, it was again burnt, and a second time rebuilt by Mr. Hall and others; and in 1844 was burnt a third time. The last two burnings were caused by fire from stoves used for warming the mill. While sawing shingles on the day the mill was last burnt, Edward C. Hall, a son of Isaiah Hall, by some accident had most of the fingers of his right hand cut off with the circular saw; and while his wound was being dressed, in a house, the mill took fire and was destroyed in spite of all efforts to save it. A year or two subsequent, Dudley B. Holt, a grandson of old Mr. Darius Holt, rebuilt the mill again—the fourth building; it is now owned by David P. Stowell, Esq., of Paris. This succession of saw-mills have been built on the same stream on which Amos Upton erected a grist-mill soon after the town was settled; but his mill was a mile from the saw-mill, up the stream.

In Sept., 1823, a very mortal sickness prevailed in the northwest part of the town, and to some extent in other parts. The disorder was something like the dysentery, accompanied with high fever, and baffled the skill of the physicians in most cases. Thirteen persons died in one little neighborhood in three weeks. Infancy and age alike fell before the destroyer.

Town officers for 1824: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; William Hobbs, Simeon Noble, Job Eastman, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Frederick Coburn, of Greenwood, Representative.

Valuation, \$75,495. Number of polls 268; number of scholars 571.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1226,02
Extra roads,	- -	1170,19
		<hr/>
Total,	- - -	\$2396,21
Schools,	- - -	\$550,00
Poor, and town charges,	- -	250,00
County tax,	- - -	182,18
State tax,	- - -	198,85
Overlaid,	- - -	41,39
Deficiency of highways for 1823,	-	81,27
		<hr/>
Total money tax,	- - -	\$1303,69

New immigrants: Thomas Morey, Abial Pratt, Thomas Pollard, James Smith, Timothy Smith, Enoch Whitney. Old settlers' sons: Andrew Case, Amos Foster, William Hall, Silas Meriam, Jr., William Needham, Jonathan B. Smith, Dresser Stevens, Ezra Twombly.

Previous to this valuation, probably in 1823, Job E. Stevens had put up a little store at the Corner, since known as Ford's Corner, Frost's Corner, &c. This was the first building erected at that place; the next was a blacksmith's shop, built by William Foster in 1829; and we may very fairly call him and Stevens the first founders of that little settlement. Mr. Foster hammered out a good many dollars in that shop, and has been succeeded by several others; Wm. Hayes now works in the same shop. John B. Ford, from Gray, succeeded Stevens in the store, and did a good business; and many others have tried trade at the Corner with various success.

Town officers for 1825: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, William Hobbs, Levi Whitman, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Uriah Holt. Representative.

Valuation, \$99,453. Number of polls 267; number of scholars 635.

Highway tax, 1741,41.

Schools,	-	-	-	-	\$550,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	300,00
County tax,	-	-	-	-	208,21
State tax,	-	-	-	-	198,85
Overlaid in assessment,	-	-	-	-	57,14
Deficiency of highway tax for 1824,	-	-	-	-	50,08

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Total money tax, - - - \$1364,28

No additions to the population worth naming.

Nothing very remarkable occurred this year, excepting the destruction of Elijah Flint's barn, in April, from a singular cause. Mrs. Flint was about to set a goose on some eggs, and carried some ashes to the barn to put under the nest; there happened to be a little too much fire in the ashes, and the barn was soon in flames. We have read the old story of geese once saving ancient Rome, but we never heard of their burning buildings before this occurrence.

Town officers for 1826: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, William Hobbs, Levi Whitman, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Uriah Holt, Representative.

Valuation, \$99,826. Number of polls 265; number of scholars 624.

Highway tax, \$1721,57.

Schools,	-	-	-	-	\$550,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	350,00
County tax,	-	-	-	-	210,53
State tax,	-	-	-	-	220,10
Overlays, and deficiency of highway,	-	-	-	-	89,12

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Total money tax, - - - \$1420,35

New immigrants: John Ayer, Charles Gammon, Benjamin Herrick, Walter B. Drew, Daniel Lufkin, John Marston, John Rice, David Woodman, Eli Whitney, Asa Johnson, Joseph Durgin, Dr. J. S. Millett. Old settlers' sons: Samuel Bird, Samuel Cobb, Elijah Flint, Jr., Hiram Millett,

David Wilkins, David Young, Daniel Pottle, William Rowe, Henry C. Reed, Joseph Bennett.

In May, this year, William Pierce, who lived on the north-westerly corner lot of the Cummings Gore, was fatally injured by the fall of a tree upon him, while at work falling trees. The injury was principally across the small of his back—as his lower extremities were entirely helpless until his death. He lived about a fortnight, and died June 3d, after much suffering, aged 40. He left a wife and six children bereft of a kind husband and father. He was a very upright, industrious man, and set a good example for his family, and that example has been well followed. His widow and second son now live on the same farm, which ranks among the best in that part of the town.

Town officers for 1827: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, William Hobbs, David Noyes, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Uriah Holt, Representative.

Valuation, \$101,037. Number of polls 256; number of scholars 610.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1212,61
Extra roads,	- -	992,12
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Total highway tax,	- - -	\$2204,73
Schools,	- - -	\$550,00
Poor, and town charges,	- -	425,00
County tax,	- - -	234,90
State tax,	- - -	220,15
Overlaid in assessment,	- -	25,32
Delinquency of highway tax for 1826,	-	47,30
		<hr/>
Total money tax,	- - -	\$1502,67

New immigrants: Asa Barton, Hiram Barrows, Samuel Brown, Rev. John Haynes, Ira Johnson, Thomas McKinnee, Elias H. Leighton, Widow Betsey Latham, Rev. Henry A. Merrill, George Morrell, Amos Ordway, J. Y. Webster,



Joel Parkhurst, Joshua Ricker. Old settlers' sons : James Bennett, William Beal, Jr., William Merrill, Benjamin Peabody, Jr., Joseph Saunders, Zachariah Weston, Jr.

Town Officers for 1828 : Job Eastman, Clerk ; Joshua Smith, Treasurer ; Uriah Holt, David Noyes, Ezra F. Beal, Selectmen ; James Crockett, Collector. Paul Wentworth, of Greenwood, Representative.

Valuation, \$106,090. Number of polls 258 ; number of scholars 637.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1207,52
Extra road tax,	- -	1524,69
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Total highway tax,	- -	\$2732,21
State tax,	- - -	\$220,15
County tax,	- - -	234,90
Schools,	- - -	550,00
Poor, and town expenses,	- -	450,00
Overlaid in the assessments,	- -	69,64
Delinquency of highway for 1827,	-	44,11
		<hr/>
Total money tax,	- - -	\$1568,80

New immigrants : Daniel Bullen, Joseph Cushman, Roswell Cummings, Luther Gillson, John Gurney, Rev. Benjamin B. Murray, Amos Work, Cyrus S. Cushman, James D. Safford. Old settlers' sons : Moses Bradbury, William Frost, Jr., Levi Gorham, Simeon Herring, Charles Hill, Joseph Holt, Isaac Hall, Henry Noble, Jacob Parsons, Jr., Mark P. Smith, Samuel Flint, John Beal, Joseph Dolly, Jr.

Town officers for 1829 : Job Eastman, Clerk ; Joshua Smith, Treasurer ; David Noyes, Thompson Hall, Nathan Noble, Jr., Selectmen ; James Crockett, Collector. Uriah Holt, Representative.

Valuation, \$106,253. Number of polls 271 ; number of scholars 600.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1248,26
Extra roads,	- -	941,91
		<hr/>
Total highway tax,	- -	\$2190,17

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$220,15
County tax,	-	-	-	-	260,98
Schools,	-	-	-	-	550,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	500,00
Building bridge, overlayings, &c.,	-	-	-	-	152,71

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Total money tax,        -        -        -        \$1683,84

New immigrants : Nathaniel K. Emery, Seba Gammon, William E. Goodnow, John Howard, Edmund Millett, William P. Phelps, Eben Rich, Jonathan Sawyer, Joseph Woodman, Harvey Wade. Old settlers' sons : Stephen Cummings, Jr., Andrew Case, Thomas J. Everett, Benjamin F. Hall, Joel Millett, Thomas J. Needham, Isaac Parsons, John Saunders, Ira Hobbs.

This year, on the 7th of May, Solomon Millett, one of the old settlers, lost his barn by fire. He had a cow sick with the horn distemper, and carried to the barn a kettle with some live coals in it in order to smoke the cow's head—producing a smoke by burning pieces of old shoes and woolen rags. He stepped out of the barn, leaving the kettle under the cow's nose ; by some means the fire extended beyond the kettle, and the barn was almost instantly in flames. He lost four oxen, eight cows, four three years old cattle, and two valuable horses, with several tons of hay and considerable grain ; the young stock was fortunately in pasture. This was a severe loss ; but many citizens cheerfully lent a helping hand, in labor and materials, towards erecting another large and commodious barn, though but a trifle in comparison with his loss. Mr. Millett had always been a very laborious, prudent man, and by industry had accumulated a competence of this world's goods ; and for this reason his loss was not so distressing to him or his family as it would have been had he been in poor circumstances.

On the 18th of April, this year, Levi Frank, senior, aged 63 years, was killed by falling into a cellar, while moving a house for John Parsons, Jr. The house stood on the farm

where Jacob Tubbs first purchased, on the Lee Grant, and was built by said Tubbs. Mr. Tubbs now sleeps in the silent grave, and his farm has had several proprietors, and is now owned by Joshua Richardson, Esq., of Portland, and improved by his son, Thomas H. Richardson; it is one of the best farms in the town. Joshua Richardson has also recently purchased the farm above Nathaniel Bennett's, where William Gardner first commenced on the Lee Grant, as early as 1790. It is now a fine farm. It has had many different owners, but is now occupied by William P. Richardson, a son of the owner.

Town officers for 1830: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; David Noyes, Thompson Hall, Nathan Noble, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. William Parsons, Jr., Representative.

Valuation, \$107,915. Number of polls 274; number of scholars 620.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1562.80
Extra road tax,	- - -	519.78
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Total highway tax,	- - -	\$2082.58
State tax,	- - -	\$220.15
County tax,	- - -	260.98
Schools,	- - -	700.00
Poor, and town charges,	- -	550.00
Overlaid in assessment,	- -	79.87
Delinquency of highway,	- -	9.19
Supplement added after assessment,	-	13.96
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Total money tax,	- - -	\$1834.15

New immigrants: Ephraim Barrows, Heward Decoster, Joseph Mitchell, Ethiel Stevens, Isaac Titcomb, Rodney Titcomb, John C. Walker, Jeremiah Woodward, Dr. Nathaniel Grant, Zachariah Wardwell. Old settlers' sons: John Bird, Jr., William Cox, Jr., Amos Downing, Jr., William Everett, Silas Fuller, Samuel Foster, Woodward W. Latham, Amos Meriam, Seth Morse, Alonzo Morse, Ward Noyes, William

Stevens, Moses A. Stevens, John Tucker, Ansel Town, James Tubbs.

In August, this year, John Parsons, Jr., lost his barn, well filled with hay, by its being struck with lightning, and set on fire. He then owned, and lived on the farm first purchased by Jacob Tubbs. The loss was considerable, especially in hay. His grain, fortunately, was still in the field.

One other thing, happening this year, may be worthy of note. There probably was a greater addition made to Norway Village, in the way of buildings, than in any other year since the settlement of the town. The three brick buildings in the central part of the Village were built this year, and many others of various kinds and for various uses, making the whole number thirty.

In April, this year, Benjamin Witt, had his house burnt in the daytime—cause unknown. It was a large house, two stories in front, and one on the back side, and was decently finished. He lost considerable household stuff, as the fire spread so rapidly there was little time to save the contents of the house.

Town officers for 1831: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, Ichabod Bartlett, Nathan Noble, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. William Parsons, Jr., Representative.

Valuation, \$109,236. Number of polls 263; number of scholars 651.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1569,96
Extra roads,	-	310,51
		<hr/>
Total highway tax,	-	\$1880,47
State tax,	-	\$250,86
County tax,	-	318,60
Schools,	-	675,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	700,00
For building river bridge,	-	400,00
Overlayings, delinquency of highway,	-	24,50

Supplement,	-	-	-	6,89
Total money tax,	-	-	-	\$2375,85

New immigrants: Thomas Austin, Matthias Furlong, Edmund Phinney, William Gaines, David P. Hannaford, Nathaniel Libbey, Alexander H. Piper, Thomas Roberts, David Cilley. Old settlers' sons: Samuel Andrews, Jr., Rufus F. Beal, Charles Frost, Stephen Greenleaf, Jr., Alva Hobbs, Charles Tubbs, Abner Downing.

This year, the citizens of Norway and vicinity celebrated the anniversary of our National Independence at Norway Village. In this celebration there was no political party known, and no political feelings were indulged—*out loud*—whatever individuals might think. Ezra F. Beal had, a short time before this, opened his new tavern, and furnished the dinner with the requisite trimmings—such as liquors, punch, wine, and beer. He did the thing up handsomely, and no fault found, nor was there occasion for any.

The procession, after being formed, moved to the meeting-house, where the throne of grace was addressed by the Rev. B. B. Murray, the Declaration of Independence read by David Noyes, and an oration pronounced by Dr. J. S. Millett. The oration was chaste, classic, and eloquent, free from anything pointedly political, and appeared to be delivered with good feeling; it was received with equal good feeling by a crowded audience. After the cloth was removed, the following thirteen regular toasts were drank amidst the roar of cannon, and the cheering strains of excellent music.

1.—*The 4th of July*—The birth-day of our Nation's Independence. May that spirit, which animated the Patriots of '76 to burst the bonds of tyranny and oppression, never cease to glow with increasing ardor in the bosoms of their offspring to the latest posterity.

2.—*The Constitution of the United States*—Framed by the Heroes and Sages of the Revolution—may it long remain a memento of their virtue, humanity, and patriotism.



3.—*The Union of the States*—Distraction to the brain, and palsy to the arm, that would sever the weakest tie that binds us together.

4.—*The yeomanry of Maine*—A free government needs no other support than an enlightened community.

5.—*Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures, and the Mechanic Arts*—The four grand pillars which support the fabric of our National Independence.

6.—*Our Northeastern Boundary*—Let Justice mark the line, and Yankee bravery establish it.

7.—*The memory of WASHINGTON*—"First in peace, first in war, first in the hearts of his countrymen."

"He burst the fetters of our land,  
He taught us to be free;  
He raised the dignity of man,  
He bade a Nation be."

And it was so.

8.—*GENERAL LAFAYETTE*—An herald proclaims before him, that he is the man that *Freemen* delight to honor.

9.—*The Heroes of the Revolution*—Although most of them have withdrawn from the festivities of this day, yet their achievements are fresh in our memories.

10.—*American Independence*—The center of the great Solar System of civil and religious liberty. May its effulgence dispel the darkness of despotism and bigotry, and light the flame of liberty throughout the universe.

11.—*Poland, and all other Nations struggling for liberty*—May God speedily break the rod of the oppressor, and let the oppressed go free.

12.—*Our Schools, Academies, and Colleges*—The safeguards of our liberties.

13.—*Our mothers and sisters, our wives and sweet-hearts*—The nearest, dearest, and most beloved objects of our affections; may they instil into the minds of our offspring, and youth, the love of virtue, liberty, and independence.

There were several volunteer sentiments offered, after the regular toasts ; but by a previous arrangement, everything of the kind was penned down, and passed the ordeal of the committee on toasts ; and if free from any obnoxious sentiments, was passed to the toast-master and given to the company. Thus everything went along in the utmost harmony, with nothing to *jar*, or to *mar*, the good feelings that seemed to pervade the crowded tables. The writer happening to be toast-master at this grand celebration, has the original toasts in his possession, and thought it might amuse some readers to peruse such old, by-gone things. He finds inscribed on the old paper the following motto : “ *Then Men felt free.*”

Town officers for 1832 : Job Eastman, Clerk ; Joshua Smith, Treasurer ; David Noyes, Ichabod Bartlett, Nathan Noble, Selectmen ; James Crockett, Collector. Ichabod Bartlett, Representative.

Valuation, \$115,697. Number of polls 278 ; number of scholars 657.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1567,15
Extra roads,	- - -	520,29
		<hr/>
Total highway tax,	- - -	\$2087,44
State tax,	- - - -	\$250,86
County tax,	- - - -	127,70
Schools,	- - - -	675,00
Poor, and town charges,	- -	500,00
Overlayings, and delinquency of highway,		32,62
		<hr/>
Total money tax,	- - -	\$1586,18

New immigrants : Samuel Dunn, Joseph C. Green, James Hill, Asa Holt, Jonathan Martin, Anthony Martin, Ransom Ripley, Joseph S. Rounds, John M. Wilson, William C. Whitney, Lee Mixer, Asia Ford. Old settlers's sons : Rufus Briggs, Solomon Downing, Alpha B. Everett, Charles Gammon, Orin Hobbs, Richard W. Houghton, Charles Parsons, John Tucker.

Town officers for 1833: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Uriah Holt, Jonathan Swift, Elliot Smith, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Ichabod Bartlett, Representative.

Valuation, \$116,374. Number of polls 302; number of scholars 657.

Highway tax, \$2510,26.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$250,86
County tax,	-	-	-	-	191,55
Schools,	-	-	-	-	675,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	500,00
Overlays, and delinquency of highway,					74,58

Total money tax, - - - \$1691,99

New immigrants: Micah Allen, Austin Buck, Rufus Chadbourn, Richard Evans, William A. Evans, Columbus Holden, Perry D. Judkins, Emery Livermore, Thomas Martin, John Martin, Levi Roberts, William Stanley, Hiram Stevens, John Tuttle, Ephraim Whitcomb, Augustus Wilkins, Isaac Wetherbee. Old settlers' sons: Lyman Bird, James Downing, William Frost, 3d, Simeon Frost, James French, jr., Stephen Hall, Pleaman Holt, William W. Hobbs, Wilson Hill, Cyrus Lord, Noah Meriam, Henry Merrill, Eli Merrill, Daniel L. Millett, Moses Parsons, Moses A. Stevens, Cephas Sampson.

Town officers for 1834: Job Eastman, Clerk: Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Jonathan Swift, Elliot Smith, John Millett, jr., Selectmen; Henry W. Millett, Collector. Ichabod Bartlett, Representative.

Valuation, \$119,570. Number of polls 309; number of scholars 687; number of voters 355.

Highway tax, \$2017,70.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$250,86
County tax,	-	-	-	-	255,45
Schools,	-	-	-	-	675,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	300,00

Overlayings, delinquency highway, supplement, 97,01

Total money tax, - - - \$1578,31

New-immigrants : Joel Barrows, Titus O. Brown, Gardner Chadbourn, Sampson Dunham, William Favor, Jotham Goodnow, John Harmon, George Kimball, Joseph Morse, William H. H. McGillfry, Sumner Shed, Joshua B. Stuart, Benjamin Sturtevant, Daniel Thurston, David Whitcomb, Elhanan Winchester, Jonathan Whitehouse, James Yeatten. Old settlers' sons : Hiram Stetson, Samuel Andrews, jr., Samuel Beal, Asa Hix, jr., Chandler F. Millett, Henry L. Noyes, Simeon W. Pierce, Francis A. Reed, Lorenzo D. Shackley, William Witt.

About the fore part of May, this year, Pleaman Holt had a barn burnt, about 12 o'clock at night, with some hay, &c., in it. This fire was believed to be the work of an incendiary, but the thing was shrouded in so much mystery that the facts were never proved.

Town officers for 1835 : Job Eastman, Clerk ; Joshua Smith, Treasurer ; Jonathan Swift, John Millett, jr., Henry W. Millett, Selectmen ; Jacob Bradbury, Collector. William Parsons, jr., Representative.

Valuation, \$129,949. Number of polls 306 ; number of scholars 663.

Highway tax, \$2345,18.

State tax, - - - - \$250,86

County tax, - - - - 255,45

Schools, - - - - 675,00

Poor, and town charges, - - - 350,00

Overlayings, delinquency highway, supplement, 42,44

Total money tax, - - - - \$1573,75

New immigrants : Dwight Avery, Pinkney Burnham, — Ballard, Frederick Coultman, Isaiah Daily, Lyman Daniels, Jonas Eastman, Seth Philpot, Edmund Foster, Richard Garland, Ebenezer Holmes, Hiram Harris, Augustus

Harris, Timothy Jordan, Charles Penley, John Pierce, Asa Thayer, William Wilkins, Loren H. Wrisley, Azel Tuttle. David R. Holden. Old settlers' sons : Benjamin Bird, Cad J. Blanchard, John Frost, jr., Amos T. Holt, John Hill, Nathan Morse, jr., William W. D. S. Millett, Ebenezer J. Pottle. Mark S. Richardson, Uriah Upton, Amos F. Noyes, Washington French, William Noble.

On the 27th of April, 1835, Mr. David Whitecomb, formerly of Waterford, was killed at Hall's saw-mill, by logs rolling upon him. He was about 65 years of age, and had lived in Norway but a short time. Ephraim Whitecomb, a blacksmith, was his son, and came to Norway in 1833 ; he has resided in town most of the time since, but died in Paris in 1851, of hemorrhage of the lungs.

Town officers for 1836 : Job Eastman, Clerk ; Joshua Smith, Treasurer ; John Millett, jr., Simon Stevens, Cyrus Cobb, Selectmen ; Joseph Bennett, Collector. Henry W. Millett, Representative.

Valuation, \$127,607. Number of polls 306 ; number of scholars 664.

Highway tax, \$2547,76.

County tax,	-	-	-	-	\$351,25
Schools,	-	-	-	-	675,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	350,00
Additional sum afterwards raised for town charges,					200,00
Overlayings, delinquency highway, supplement,					66,87

Total money tax, - - - \$1643,12

New immigrants : David M. Brown, William W. Berry, Elbridge G. Fuller, Jeremiah Howe, William Hall, jr., Francis Holden, Benjamin Holden, Addison A. Latham, John Martin, John Millett, 3d, Hezekiah McIntier, Richard McIntier, William Pratt, Samuel Pierce, James Yates, Richard Lombard. Old settlers' sons : Asa Packard, Ebenezer Bancroft, jr., Samuel Crockett, Perley French, David O. Holt, Jeremiah W. Hobbs, Seth Pike, William Pingree, jr., Gran-



ville L. Reed, James Shackley, Daniel G. Town, Jacob Tubbs, Kimball Holt, Nathaniel Andrews.

On the 5th day of Feb., this year, Nathan Foster, one of the early settlers, died in a very sudden manner. He went to his barn about 9 o'clock, A. M., carrying with him some potatoes for his calves; in a short time after, he was wanted, and when sent for, was found dead in his barn-yard. He had sometimes been subject to faint spells, and the probability is, that he was taken in one of his fainting fits, fell upon the icy yard, and was stunned by the fall, or died in a fit. He left a large family to mourn his sudden exit.

Town officers for 1837: Job Eastman, Clerk; Joshua Smith, Treasurer; Simon Stevens, Cyrus Cobb, Jonathan B. Smith, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Jonathan B. Smith, Representative.

Valuation, \$123,719. Number of polls 322; number of scholars 723.

Highway tax, \$3094,17.

County tax, - - - -	\$383,17
Schools, - - - -	675,00
Overlaid in the assessment, - -	46,13
Delinquency of highway, - -	23,70
Supplement, - - - -	34,66

Total money tax, - - - \$1162,66

New immigrants: Titus O. Brown, jr., Ebenezer Crowell, John Deering, Timothy H. Hutchinson, Edwin F. Hutchinson, Ebenezer N. Holmes, Erastus Hilbourn, Richard M. Jordan, Peter Knight, Asa McAllister, John McAllister, George J. Ordway, Timothy Smith, Rev. Charles Soule, John B. Stowell, Samuel Stowell, Cyrus S. Thayer, William Verrill, Silas W. Bumpus, Rev. Reuben Milner. Old settlers' sons: George W. Cox, Luther F. Foster, Timothy J. Frost, James S. Greenleaf, Samuel Hill, Eben C. Shackley, Francis Upton, jr., David F. Young, Joel S. Frost, George W. Everett.

This year, a town census was taken on account of the surplus revenue. The inhabitants, of all ages, numbered 1791. The first instalment was loaned in sums of \$25 to \$50; the second instalment was loaned in smaller sums of \$10; and after the legislature passed an act giving towns the power to distribute the money, the town, or a large part of it, was anxious for the distribution, and it accordingly took place—the sum averaging \$2 per head, besides the expense. It was quite an unnatural measure for government to distribute money *to the people*, while the government is supported *by the people*.

On the 4th of July, this year, Bradley Foster, aged 13 years, was drowned. There was a sort of celebration in the adjoining town of Greenwood, and he, with other boys, went to participate in the recreations of the day. A company of boys resorted to a mill-pond for the purpose of bathing, and by some mishap he got into too deep water, and drowned before he could be rescued. He was the son of Nathan Foster, jr., and grandson of Nathan Foster, sen. His father died on the 19th of Jan., this same year, and his grandfather was found dead in his barn-yard on the 5th of Feb., 1836. The mother of the unfortunate boy still remains a widow, and resides in the city of Lowell, as also do several of her children.

Town officers for 1838: Job Eastman, Clerk; Henry Rust, Treasurer; Simon Stevens, Jonathan B. Smith, John Whitmarsh, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Elliot Smith, Representative.

Valuation, \$115,924. Number of polls 325; number of scholars 726.

Highway tax, \$2092,49.

County tax,	-	-	-	\$ 383,17
Schools,	-	-	-	675,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	1000,00
For building town-house,	-	-	-	500,00

Overlayings, delinquency highway, supplement, 126,81

Total money tax, - - - \$2684,98

New immigrants: Daniel H. Blake, Salmon Cushman. Alonzo Curtis, Gilman Davis, Walter B. Drew, Charles Gardner, Timothy Hodgdon, Lorenzo Hathaway, John Howe. Jacob Herrick, James Haskell, Josiah Libby, Lewis Mixer, Ward McIntier, Samuel Partridge, Joseph Richardson, Rev. Luke P. Rand, Stephen Rowe, David Sanborn, George W. Smith, Daniel B. Sawyer, Dr. Leander S. Tripp, Amos Purington, Ephraim Brown, jr. Old settlers' sons: John Bancroft, Amos W. Briggs, William Briggs, Joshua Frost. John Gallison, William Hill, William Knight, Henry Lovejoy, Solomon I. Millett, Nathan K. Noble, George W. Parsons, Moses A. Young, Daniel H. Buck, Simon P. Everett.

This year, the town built a suitable house in which to hold town-meetings, and for other town business. After the erection of the Congregational meeting-house by Maj. Jonathan Cummings, the town-meetings were held in that building; but they made rather dirty work in the house, and some fault was found—probably not without reason; so the town concluded to build a house for its especial use. There was some excitement on the question of a place for the house; but the committee chosen for the purpose of selecting a central and convenient spot, selected the site now occupied, on the land of David Noyes, and he gave the land free to the town for so long a time as the house shall be used exclusively for the transaction of town business.

Town officers for 1839: Job Eastman, Clerk; Henry Rust, Treasurer; Simon Stevens, John Whitmarsh, Henry C. Reed, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Elliot Smith, Representative.

Valuation, \$114,968. Number of polls 318; number of scholars 717.

Highway tax, \$2218,99.

County tax, - - - -	\$ 348,62
Schools, - - - -	675,00
Poor, and town charges, - -	1000,00
Overlays, delinquency highway, supplement, - -	89,12

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Total money tax, - - - - \$2112,74

New immigrants: William Bisbee, Alva York, Caleb Cushman, Alvan Clifford, Henry Clifford, James F. Carter, John Coffin, Alvan Dinsmore, Ara S. Fuller, Isaac Farrington, Mark S. Grover, Saunders Kimball, Magnus Ridlon, Moses Swan, Samuel Whitney. Old settlers' sons: David Andrews, Asaph Bird, Henry L. Crockett, Hiram Everett, David Frost, William Lord, Jr., James Lassell, Leonard Young, Jacob F. Holt.

On the 15th day of June, this year, John S. Shed's house was burnt; cause of the fire unknown. Mr. Shed was absent, about one mile distant, and did not get home in time to do anything towards saving the contents of the house. The house was 28 feet by 36, the outside well finished, and a considerable part of the inside; it was rather a hard loss for the owner. His father, who was killed in 1818, in raising N. P. Shed's house, built the house in 1806, on the farm where he first began in 1788.

Town officers for 1840: Job Eastman, Clerk; Henry Rust, Treasurer; Simon Stevens, Henry C. Reed, Solomon Noble, Selectmen; James Crockett, Collector. Simon Stevens, Representative.

Valuation, \$116,887. Number of polls 321; number of scholars 713; number of inhabitants, by the census, 1786.

Highway tax, common roads, - -	\$1881,84
Extra roads, - - - -	528,11

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Total highway tax, - - - -	\$2409,95
State tax, - - - -	\$487,60
County tax, - - - -	196,18
Schools, - - - -	675,00
Poor, and town charges, - - - -	2500,00

Overlayings in assessment, - -	112,95
Delinquency of highway, and supplement,	55,73
	<hr/>
Total money tax, - - - -	\$4027,46

Now I hope our good citizens, and others, won't be startled at our enormous tax for this year, as the town then purchased a farm for its poor, which cost \$1110, with several hundreds of dollars additional for repairs of buildings, furniture, stock, and farming implements; besides all this, the town incurred considerable expense in 1839 in fitting out the soldiers for the Madawaska war, which left the treasury rather low at the commencement of 1840.

New immigrants: Depleura Bisbee, Benjamin Cummings, Archibald B. Ward, Charles Cushman, William Coleman, Thomas Ellis, Jonathan Merrow, Horsley Shed, Winslow Ramsdale, Reuel Shaw, Theodore Verrill, Joshua H. Whitney, John Davis. Old settlers' sons: Daniel Bancroft, Ephraim S. Crockett, Samuel P. Frost, Robert Hall, Bradbury C. A. Pingree, Amos Upton, Jr., Joseph Eastman, Lewis H. Hobbs, Perez B. Latham.

In December, this year, there was a small fire in the Village. Daniel Holt's blacksmith shop was burnt in the night time, and his coal-house adjoining, or very near, was also burnt; the wind being westerly, no other buildings were injured. Loss not very great, or distressing, but yet it caused considerable loss and inconvenience to the owner.

Early in the fall, 1840, widow Esther Millett lost her barn and its contents by fire. The cause of the fire ought to be a caution to all *boys*, and *men*, too, about discharging guns in or about their buildings. One of her boys seeing a squirrel on the barn, running along under the eaves, got his gun and shot the poor little animal; and probably some part of the wad passed through a crack between the boards, and was unnoticed at the time, but shortly after the barn was discovered in flames. Mrs. Millett, in May, 1826, lost her husband, in



the full vigor of manhood, aged 40 years, and had with uncommon fortitude and industry encountered all the hardships and inconveniences of a widowed life; she had nobly succeeded in keeping her family and farm together, and finished a new house which was partly built when her husband died; yet she was not exempted from this heavy loss. The next year she replaced the old barn by a much larger and better one, and is still living on the same farm, in good circumstances.

Town officers for 1841 : Job Eastman, Clerk; Elliot Smith, Treasurer; Henry C. Reed, Solomon Noble, Ichabod Bartlett, Selectmen. Simon Stevens, Representative.

Valuation, \$114,423. Number of polls 310; number of scholars 723.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$2318,35
Extra roads,	- - -	1262,16
Total highway tax,	- - -	<hr/> \$3580,51
State tax,	- - -	\$720,91
County tax,	- - -	282,08
Schools,	- - -	750,00
Poor, and town charges,	- - -	1500,00
Overlayings,	- - -	70,19
Delinquency of highway,	- - -	28,79
Supplement added after assessment,	- - -	66,07
Total money tax,	- - -	<hr/> \$3398,04

On the 12th day of Sept., the town voted to raise money for making the new County road from Ford's Corner to Otisfield line—the road to be let out in small sections to the lowest bidder; and the sum was accordingly assessed, amounting to \$1262,16. This made a large addition to the already heavy money tax, making the whole for this year \$4660,20. The road was made that fall, and has proved a very useful one.

New immigrants : Isaac Abbott, Ephraim H. Brown, James Hale, Richard Jackson, Noah Jordan, Aruna Judkins, Dean

A. Kilgore, William Kelley, Alexander Libby, Joseph Turner, Eugene Upton, Simcon Walton, Nathan Hathaway, Moses Hanseum, James N. Hall. Old settlers' sons : Joseph R. Ames, Benjamin G. Barrows, Hiram W. Deering, Henry Upton, Jonathan G. Noble.

The first new immigrant mentioned this year is Isaac Abbott. I speak of him here because I find his name on the tax list, but I hope his tax was abated. He came into the town in 1808, and has lived here mostly since, but a part of the time in Oxford. He has been a very unfortunate man, and is deserving the sympathy of all who possess the proper feelings of humanity. His father, with a large family, emigrated from Andover, Mass., to East Andover, (as it was then called) in Maine, probably about 1800. The place was then new, with but few settlers. About the winter of 1804, a family wished to move from East Andover to Errol, N. H., on the west side of Umbagog lake ; and Isaac Abbott, then a very active, vigorous young man, went to drive an ox-team, among others, for the conveyance of the household goods and family. There was little, or no road through Letter B township, and they had to cross Umbagog lake with their teams. On their return home, they found the water had risen over the ice ; they were overtaken by a violent storm and cold squalls, which completely hid the poor track ; they were almost lost in the storm, and the whole company came very near perishing on the lake. They finally unyoked their oxen, and succeeded in getting out to a settlement with their lives spared. Mr. Abbott was frozen in a shocking manner, having both feet, nearly, or quite, to his ancles, frozen hard ; and traveled for several miles, after his feet were hard as ice, by holding to the tail of a gentle ox. He was conveyed home, and after intense pain and suffering, had both feet amputated at the ancles ; but the thing was probably not very skillfully done ; he suffered a long time, and finally, before his legs could be healed up, he underwent a second amputation of both

legs about eight inches below the knees. After the last amputation, his stumps healed up sound, and he ever since has walked on his knees, and has, wonderful to relate, performed much hard labor. A few years after his legs were amputated the last time, he married a daughter of Asa Lovejoy, (one of the early settlers on the Waterford three tiers,) and has brought up a family of several children.

I ought to have noticed, in the account of 1840, that Baker Ames had a son, John Ames, drowned in the mill-pond, above the Village mills; he went upon the ice to play, with other boys, and broke through, and before help could be procured, sank to rise no more. He was drowned Dec. 4, 1840, aged nine years.

There have been several very narrow escapes from drowning in the pond, by venturing upon ice when not strong enough to be safe. About 1833, on thanksgiving day, Ephraim S. Crockett, a son of Ephraim Crockett, who lives on the east side of the pond, nearly opposite the writer's farm, thinking to have a fine time skating on the ice, crossed the head of the pond to D. Noyes', and Claudius A. Noyes, then about twelve years of age, went with him to participate in the amusement of skating. They skated awhile, and growing more venturesome, went near the middle of the pond, when Crockett broke in, and could not get upon the ice again, as when he attempted to spring upon it, it would break, without assisting him from the water. In this dilemma, C. A. Noyes, although but a small boy, told him to hold upon the edge of the ice, and he would soon help him; he then skated quickly to the shore, and took a long, slim pole from a fence, and going, within the length of the pole, to the other boy, he laid himself down on the ice, and reached him the small end, which he grasped tightly, and giving a smart spring, was pulled out of the water, and drawn to where the ice was strong enough to bear them. They had had skating enough for one thanksgiving. James Bennett, about the same year, broke through the ice

while skating, and being alone, came very near drowning. He kept trying to spring upon the ice, which continued breaking, until it was broken to a place strong enough to hold him up, when he succeeded in getting from the water, but was nearly chilled to death. He says that was a sufficiency of skating for him.

Town officers for 1842: Job Eastman, Clerk; Elliot Smith, Treasurer; Henry C. Reed, Solomon Noble, Ichabod Bartlett, Selectmen. Benjamin Tucker, Jr., Representative.

Valuation, \$154,018. Number of polls 300; number of scholars 690.

Highway tax, \$2615,38.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$720,91
County tax,	-	-	-	-	314,43
Schools,	-	-	-	-	750,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	600,00
Overlayings,	-	-	-	-	79,99
Delinquency of highway, and supplement,					50,13

Total money tax, - - - \$2515,46

New immigrants: Elias Adams, Nathaniel G. Bacon, Isaac Bolster, Alfred P. Burnell, Henry R. Cushman, Caleb Hersey, Jacob Herrick, James M. Lewis, Bartle Perry, Gardner Rowe, William Stowell, Elias Stowell, Rev. Timothy J. Tenney, Foster Wentworth. Old settlers' sons: Steadman Bennett, Joshua B. Crockett, Calvin L. Herring, Samuel Lord, 2d, Edwin Morse, Edward H. L. Morse, Israel D. Millett, David B. Noyes.

This year, on the 18th day of March, Col. John Millett's house was burnt, and but little saved from it. It was a good farm-house, and the loss large. Origin of the fire unknown.

Town officers for 1843: Simon Stevens, Clerk; Elliot Smith, Treasurer; Jonathan Swift, John Parsons, Jr., Benjamin Tucker, Jr., Selectmen; George J. Ordway, Collector. Classed with Oxford, and John J. Perry, of Oxford, Representative.

Valuation, \$150,312. Number of polls 347; number of scholars 713.

Highway tax, \$3610,01.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$720,91
County tax,	-	-	-	-	262,02
Schools,	-	-	-	-	750,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	800,00
To build bridge pier,	-	-	-	-	50,00
Overlayings, delinquency highway, supplement,					134,84

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Total money tax, - - - \$2717,77

New immigrants; William Andrews, Solomon Cloudman, Adna C. Denison, Moses G. Dow, Samuel Favor, Elhanan W. Fyler, Thomas Higgins, Nathaniel O. Hicks, Darius Holt, 3d, Ezekiel Jackson, William Hutchins, John Woodman, Edmund S. Dean. Old settlers' sons: Ebenezer Bancroft, Jr., Levi Bartlett, William Buck, Churchill Cobb, Nathan M. Crockett, Eliab Frost, Cornelius Hobbs, Lyman Hobbs, Ora Hix, Solomon S. Hall, Jeremiah Hall, Stephen Hall, William Merrill, Benjamin Marston, Claudius A. Noyes, Simon Stevens, 2d, Oren Tubbs, William Upton, Daniel M. Young.

This year will ever be memorable in the annals of Norway, on account of the destruction of Esquire Eastman's dwelling house by fire, and the records of the town from the time of its incorporation. It is supposed, but not certainly known, that the fire communicated to the house from ashes in the wood-house. When the fire was discovered, the inmates had not a moment to spare, but made their escape by the back door, which had not been used for the winter. They got out with nothing on them but their night-clothes. Esquire Eastman was then about 93 years old, quite unwell, and could hardly walk in the house; the snow was four feet deep from the door to the road, with a fence to be got over in the way. Mrs. Eastman, with almost superhuman strength, dragged him through snow nearly up to her arms, put him over the



fence, and got him into the barn-yard, as much from the wind as possible, and then wrapped him in a coverlet, which she had fortunately dragged from the bed with her husband. Ann A. Shaw, a granddaughter of Mrs. Eastman, about fifteen years of age, escaped in the same nude condition as the others, and rendered her grandmother all the assistance in her power. They were exposed to the severe cold for a considerable time. The fire was at length discovered from Mr. William Hobbs'—the alarm being given by old Mrs. Richardson—when his boys hastened to the scene of distress. As soon as they arrived at the burning house, one of them ran home, hastened back with a horse and sleigh, and carried the family to Mr. Hobbs' in a piteous condition. Mrs. Eastman's feet were shockingly frozen; and as soon as the frost was out, they were a complete blister nearly to her ancles, excepting the upper parts. The girl was considerably frozen, but nothing compared to Mrs. Eastman. Esquire Eastman was very much chilled, but his wife had wrapped him in the coverlet so closely that he got frozen but a little. For more than a month Mrs. Eastman was unable to walk, or stand; but by good care she at length entirely recovered, and has, till recently, been able, and willing, to perform much labor for an old lady. But on the evening of Feb. 13, 1852, she met with another affliction: she accidentally fell upon the floor and injured her hip, so that she is entirely confined to her bed. How long her lameness will continue is uncertain, but the writer hopes not long.

The name and services of Job Eastman, for *many, many* years, were as familiar as household words to almost every man, woman, and child, in the town of Norway. After the incorporation of the town, Joshua Smith was town Clerk during two years, and in 1803, Joseph Rust was Clerk one year; Job Eastman filled the office all the other years until 1843. He was first Selectman, and town Treasurer, for nine years after the town was incorporated; and was an acting Justice

of the Peace from 1797 until his death, which took place Feb. 28, 1845, at the age of 95 years.

Mark S. Richardson and wife, with one young child, and his mother, lived in the west end of Esquire Eastman's house at the time of the fire. They escaped by the front-door with much less danger and difficulty than the Eastman family.

In the spring of this year, there was a remarkable freshet, which flooded many cellars, and carried off many bridges. Ephraim Brown then owned the old grist-mill at the Steep Falls, below the Village, and it was swept away by the flood; his peg manufactory, also, shared the fate of the mill.

By a request to the Selectmen, there was a special town-meeting called on the Saturday previous to the first Monday in May, for the purpose of instructing the town authorities in regard to licensing suitable persons to sell spirituous liquors for medicinal and mechanical purposes. The meeting was rather thin, but the Selectmen were instructed to license no person, except the town Clerk and town Treasurer, to sell for the above purposes; and the profits, after paying the expense of selling, to go into the town treasury for supporting the poor. What the profits amounted to, is as yet unknown to the town, as no report has been made.

A very melancholy affair happened in this town on the evening of the 6th of October, 1843. Mr. Dresser Stevens, next-door-neighbor to the writer, as is very common among farmers, made a husking for the evening, and invited his neighbors to assist him. In the course of the evening, some rather rude joking was indulged in by a portion of the company at the expense of a youngster named Hiram Totherly, and his making rather a tart reply irritated the feelings of a few present, which caused hard words between the parties. At the close of the husking, Ebenezer Hobbs made an assault on Totherly, and they soon closed in with each other, and both fell on the floor in the squabble; Totherly, with his jack-knife, stabbed Hobbs in many places, and a wound just

over the collar-bone, proved mortal. The affray took place about eleven o'clock on Friday night, and he died near five o'clock Saturday morning. Totherly was immediately arrested, and the next day committed to jail. At the following May term of the Supreme Judicial Court, he had his trial, but was not convicted, the jury not agreeing. The first indictment by the grand jury was for murder; but at the October term the case was put to the grand jury a second time, and a bill was found against him for manslaughter. The next spring he had a second trial, was convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced by the Court to one year's imprisonment in the County jail. After the expiration of his imprisonment, he went to Portland, and finally enlisted as a soldier in the Mexican war, where he was wounded, and died in a hospital. But I forbear to enlarge upon the subject, lest it should open afresh the deeply-wounded feelings of relatives and others. The mild sentence of the Court very plainly shows that they did not think all the blame ought to be attributed to him. Both the youngsters were about eighteen years of age at the time of this sad tragedy.

Town officers for 1844: Simon Stevens, Clerk; James Crockett, Treasurer; Jonathan Swift, William Parsons, Jr., Mark P. Smith, Selectmen; George J. Ordway, Collector. Jonathan Swift, Representative.

Valuation, \$153,173. Number of polls 321; number of scholars 667.

Highway tax, \$2039,05.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$540.68
County tax,	-	-	-	-	374,26
Schools,	-	-	-	-	750.00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	900,00
Overlaysings, delinquency highway, supplement,					119,78

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Total money tax, - - - \$2684,72

New immigrants: Noble Blossom, James Blossom, Ira Berry, Levi T. Boothby, America Briggs, John A. Bolster,

Benjamin Robbins, Thomas G. Brooks, James Dow, Peter B. Frost, Samuel Favor, Joseph Haniford, Edward Higgins, Robert Noyes, William D. Paine, Reuben S. Rich, Amos Thurlow, Daniel Whitehouse, Charles Walton, Oren Wilbur. Old settlers' sons : David R. Everett, Joseph Hor, Henry H. Hobbs, Lorenzo D. Hobbs, George W. Knight, Newton Swift.

In the fall of this year, Richard W. Houghton's house, near the Steep Falls, was burnt; origin of the fire unknown. Also, on the night of the 19th of Nov., Holden's mills, on Crooked river, were burnt; origin of the fire unknown, but thought by many to be the work of an incendiary.

Town officers for 1845 : Simon Stevens, Clerk ; James Crockett, Treasurer ; William Parsons, Jr., Mark P. Smith, Henry W. Millett, Selectmen ; George J. Ordway, Collector. Mark P. Smith, Representative.

Valuation, \$165,701. Number of polls 330 ; number of scholars 664.

Highway tax, \$1592,29.

State tax,	-	-	-	\$489,33
County tax,	-	-	-	322,63
Schools,	-	-	-	750,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	700,00
Overlayings, delinquency highway, supplement,				90,10

Total money tax, - - - \$2352,06

New immigrants : Jairus Bryant, Zachary Carey, Aaron Chandler, John Davis, Johnson Edwards, William Evans, William Howe, David McAllister, Samuel L. Preble, John Penley, Joshua Richardson, David Rowe, Benjamin Wade, Daniel Stone, Moses Town. Old settlers' sons : Edmund Ames, Albion Buck, Cyrus Cobb, Jr., Robert I. Frost, Samuel Lord, Jr., Orren F. Millett, Ebenezer Marston, Prescott L. Pike, Daniel Pike, Otis Stevens, Francis H. Whitman, George P. Whitney.

This year seems rather remarkable for the record of many deaths of the early settlers of this town. Among those who

died were Deacon William Parsons, aged 85 years, Benjamin Herring, 84, Josiah Hill, 80, Job Eastman, 95, Mrs. Asa Hix, 64, Mrs. Peter Town, 59, Mrs. Joseph Bradbury, 79. Daniel Watson, 83, John Frost, 77, Joshua Crockett, son of Joshua Crockett, the old settler, 54, Mrs. Mary Hall, 51; and many others.

Town officers for 1846: Simon Stevens, Clerk; James Crockett, Treasurer; Mark P. Smith, Henry W. Millett, Simeon Noble, Selectmen; Henry W. Millett, Collector. Isaac A. Thayer, Oxford, Representative.

Valuation, \$172,036. Number of polls 320; number of scholars 714.

Highway tax, \$2355.24.

State tax,	-	-	-	\$652.44
County tax,	-	-	-	322.65
Schools,	-	-	-	750.00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	500.00
Overlayings, delinquency highway, supplement,				129.64

Total money tax, - - - \$2354.73

New immigrants: Levi B. Abbott, James Corson, Ebenezer Carsley, Alva B. Davis, Ebenezer P. Fitz, Jameson Gammon, Edwin Plummer, Reuben Penley, Ansel Ross, Amos Smith, Joseph Tuttle, Joshua Weeks. Old settlers' sons: Cyrus W. Buck, Mahalon Crockett, Milton W. Hobbs, Oliver A. Hall, Samuel S. Millett, John H. Millett, William Marston, Stephen Merrill, Osgood Perry, John I. Pike, Jonathan G. Town, Albion Hall.

Town officers for 1847: Simon Stevens, Clerk; Ebenezer C. Shackley, Treasurer; Henry W. Millett, Henry C. Reed, Solomon Noble, Selectmen; Henry W. Millett, Collector. Simeon Noble, Representative.

Valuation, \$182,039. Number of polls 327; number of scholars 668.

Highway tax, common roads,	-	\$1042.54
Extra roads,	-	1042.54
Total highway tax,	-	\$2085.08



State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$326,22
County tax,	-	-	-	-	322,65
Schools,	-	-	-	-	750,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	900,00
Overlayings and supplement,	-	-	-	-	50,19

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Total money tax, - - - \$2349,06

New immigrants : Thomas Blake, Jairus S. Chipman, Charles Callahan, Sumner Frost, John S. French, Edwin W. Howe, Ebenezer P. Hinds, Charles Kendall, Clark Knight, James H. Merrill, Franklin Manning, Rev. Charles Packard, Horace Paine, Clemens Randal, Jonathan Richards, Levi Thayer, Thomas Thorn. Old settlers' sons : George L. Beal, James H. Cox, Barzilla S. Cobb, David B. Crockett, David W. Frost, Osgood French, William H. Foster, Daniel Holt, 3d, Isaac Jordan, Levi W. Pingree, Lewis Shackley, George Wilkins.

On the 12th of April, this year, Joseph York, Jr., a young man employed in the saw-mill at the Steep Falls, received a death-blow, by accident. He was assisting in placing a log upon the mill-carriage, and by some means a handspike was wrenched from his grasp, one end of which struck him upon the right side of the abdomen, producing mortal injury internally. He survived the accident from Monday afternoon till Thursday morning.

On the morning of the 18th of November, this year, Cyrus Cobb, Esq., met an untimely death by a fall in his barn. He went to his barn for the purpose of feeding his cattle, and went up over the beams to throw down hay, when a board gave way and precipitated him into the barn-floor, killing him instantly, as was supposed, his neck being broken by the fall. This was a severe loss to his family, and also to the community, as he was a very industrious and useful man. The family still feel as though their loss was irreparable. He was the son of Ebenezer Cobb, who was among the early settlers of this town, and lived on the old homestead of his father.

Town officers for 1848 : Simon Stevens, Clerk ; Ebenezer C. Shackley, Treasurer ; Henry W. Millett, Henry C. Reed, Solomon Noble, Selectmen ; Samuel Favor, Collector. Benjamin Richards, Oxford, Representative.

Valuation, \$193,575. Number of polls 363 ; number of scholars 752.

Highway tax, \$1042,41.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$ 652,44
County tax,	-	-	-	-	376,43
Schools,	-	-	-	-	750,00
Poor, building roads, and other town charges,					2700,00
Overlayings and supplement,				-	52,38

Total money tax, - - - \$4531,25

New immigrants : Elbridge G. Allen, James M. Abbott, James C. Bennett, Philander Barnes, Hosea B. Bisbee, Charles D. Bisbee, William Blake, Moses B. Bartlett, D. H. Blake, Cyrus W. Brown, William M. Cushman, Job Cushman, Bezaleel Cushman, Leander Dorman, Albert B. Davis, Luke Fletcher, Jonathan Fairbanks, Charles L. Francis, Freeman Higgins, Danforth Jordan, Joseph Judkins, Charles P. Kimball, Joseph A. Kendall, Amos T. Murphy, Ransom Morton, James P. Morton, John W. Noble, Charles Newhall, Peter C. Putnam, Isaac Pressey, Asa H. Phinney, Edwin F. Quinby, Alfred Raymond, Alfred Shattuck, Orsamus Smiley, Israel Swett, George W. Seaverns, John G. Swett, Jonathan M. Smiley, William Stone, Otis True, Ephraim H. Wood, John Walton, William Walton, G. B. Wentworth, Joseph Whitman, George J. Wardwell, Joseph Wilson. Old settlers' sons : Joseph Bullen, Isaac Bartlett, Benjamin Dale, Levi Frost, William P. French, Jonathan Holt, Cornelius W. Hobbs, Lewis Lovejoy, Theodore L. Lassell, Coleman F. Lord, Hiram Lovejoy, Ceylon Watson.

This year there was a great accession to the number of new immigrants, in consequence of the railroad operations ; and if they can all get a good living, and make money, or other

property, we bid them welcome; but the old settlers have always found it necessary to attend closely to some regular business, and I guess the new ones will find the same course, eventually, for their permanent interest.

Town officers for 1849: Simon Stevens, Clerk; Ebenezer C. Shackley, Treasurer; Mark P. Smith, Henry W. Millett, Solomon Noble, Selectmen; Ansel Ross, Collector. Henry C. Reed, Representative.

Valuation, \$200,982. Number of polls 369; number of scholars 742.

Highway tax, \$1245,55.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$ 652,44
County tax,	-	-	-	-	484,91
Schools,	-	-	-	-	750,00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	1150,00
Overlayings and supplement,	-	-	-	-	153,55

Total money tax, - - - \$3190,90

New immigrants: James Anderson, A. A. Adams, G. H. Barnard, David N. Cushman, Rev. E. K. Colby, S. T. Dutton, David P. Flood, Eli Grover, L. D. Foster, William Hutchins, Benson Hawkins, Abner Jackson, John Johnson, William W. Kimball, George Kimball, Joseph Lovejoy, Jonathan Ryerson, Thomas Richardson, George W. Stevens, Samuel Sumner, Joshua B. Stuart, G. E. Shattuck, Clark P. True, Charles Thompson, John F. True, George Humphrey, Henry B. Upton, William W. Virgin. Old settlers' sons: John D. Beal, Josiah Danforth, George A. Frost, Jonathan S. Millett, 2d, Edwin Millett, Washington Noyes, Noah Pike, Henry S. Small, Edwin Stetson, Ezra Shackley, William B. Upton.

Early in the morning of March 31, 1849, the store of Moses A. Young was discovered to be on fire. The store was saved, but the goods (a small stock) were considerably injured by fire, smoke, and water. The origin of the fire yet remains unknown.

On the 21st of June, this year, Uriah Holt, Esq., died. His sickness was very short, about four or five days; his disorder was gravel, combined with other complaints. His family felt their loss severely, as well as the neighborhood and town. He had been in town office much, from the time he came into Norway, and was a very correct man in any business which he undertook. I must be pardoned if I indulge my own feelings a little in regard to his death. We had been associated much in business from 1811 up to the time of his death, and many times on important affairs; and, whether owing to his disposition, or mine, or both, we never had the first word of disagreement in any of our business. I was with him through the most of his last sickness, and with a heavy heart performed the last sad offices due to an old friend. His wife, Hannah Holt, who had been a youthful companion of my own wife, previous to the marriage of either, died of consumption, Feb. 4th, 1835.

Almost everybody, in this vicinity, knows that old Uriah Holt and old David Noyes have been practical surveyors for many years; and from this circumstance, we were much together in such business. We have traversed the woods in company through many wearisome days, and passed many dreary nights in the forest, with no other bed than some hemlock or fir boughs, and no other shelter than the heavens, except in rainy weather, when we used to erect a little camp, covered with spruce bark, which we could build in a few minutes. At one time, in 1835, we were in the woods, and saw no living person, except two Indians, and our own assistants, for sixty days; and if those were not times to "try men's souls," they were to try their "stomachs," when the grub fell short; and once, in particular, we had to pinch down to a small pittance, at only morning and night, for two days, and on the third day ate nothing till afternoon. By that time we had excellent appetites, and the food tasted good without many trimmings to make it relish.

At the annual meeting on the 5th of March, 1849, the town enacted, or, rather, passed a vote to adopt a code of by-laws, in regard to a bowling-saloon, and ball-playing in the street, and afterwards applied to the County Commissioners to ratify, or sanction, said by-laws. By these by-laws, the game of ball was not allowed to be played in any street, or public place, within ten rods of any house, store, or shop, nor, to be thrown by any person, a snow-ball, brick-bat, stone, or other thing liable to injure any person or property, under a penalty of one dollar for each and every offence; and no person allowed to keep any place for playing at bowls, or other noisy game, within half a mile of any dwelling-house, meeting-house, or school-house, or within eighty rods of any public highway, under a penalty of five dollars, and any person playing at any such games in such places was liable to a penalty of two dollars. The Selectmen were clothed with power to appoint a police-officer, under the imposing title of "Inspector of Police," to carry out the provisions of said by-laws.

The thing, like other new notions, caused some little excitement among the boys and men, when the snow got off in the spring, and they began to hunt up their balls; and a notice in the Village paper, warning persons not to visit particular places, was rather hard *spelling* and *reading* for some; but happily, the threatened little storm has mostly blown over, and our atmosphere has nearly resumed its accustomed serenity. The bowling-saloon still stands, just south of where Denison's stable was burned, at the time of the calamitous fire last fall; and, wonderful to relate, the poor little thing seems to stand as a monument of sparing mercy, for it must have had a shower of fire over it during the conflagration. It has been open but little since the fire.

A careful observation, at different times, and in different places, will convince any reasonable person that severe restraint is generally a weak preventative of common and civil recrea-



tion among almost all classes of the community; and the more stringent the law, the more strong the inclination to taste the "forbidden fruit." For "still, still man's heart will draw the secret sigh for pleasures unenjoyed." Mankind are so constituted that something recreative and gratifying to the sense, (or reason, if you please so to call it,) in some shape or other, will be sought for by every human being, while physical and mental faculties are capable of enjoyment. For, as a great poet says—

"Behold the child, by nature's kindly law,  
Pleased with a rattle, tickled with a straw.  
Some livelier plaything gives his youth delight,  
A little louder, but as empty quite.  
Scarfs, garters, gold, amuse his riper stage,  
And beads and prayer-books are the toys of age.  
Pleased with this bauble still, as that before,  
Till tired he sleeps, and life's poor play is o'er."

No individual has a right to expect that the views and feelings of all others should exactly coincide with his own; therefore it is not acting with candor to be too tenacious of our own opinions and practice, or too illiberal and censorious in regard to the opinions and practice of others, who do not tally exactly with us in all things. For "whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." And this is a Divine injunction, which *all* are bound to follow. Such illiberal, censorious persons do not seem to be very deeply imbued with the spirit of our Heavenly Father; for "He maketh his sun to shine on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

Now, to further illustrate the bearing and effects of the illiberal, overbearing, down-treading feelings and views manifested by a certain portion of mankind in regard to the feelings and views of other portions of the human family, the writer will relate a little anecdote of an affair which once took place in the town of ———. In the dining-hall of a fashionable hotel, a splendid table was spread for regaling the appetites

of the numerous guests ;—there was one dish, in particular, containing a rare and choice delicacy. A certain gentleman, who counted himself as one of the “upper ten,” after carving up this choice dish, took the pepper, and gave the whole a most liberal sprinkling, observing, at the same time, “Gentlemen, I suppose you all like pepper ; I am very fond of it myself.” A little French gentleman, though not at all lacking in good manners, and good breeding, but wishing to impress a useful lesson upon the mind of this assuming gentleman, thereupon drew from his pocket a capacious snuff-box, and gave the same delicate dish a thorough sprinkling of good old maccaboy, and says, “Gentlemen, I suppose you are all fond of snuff ; I like it very much myself.” You can easily judge what were the feelings of the disappointed guests, in consequence of this improper assumption by one of their number, thus to endeavor to prepare the whole dish to suit his own particular palate, without regard to the tastes of others.

The effects are about the same where one, or a few, set out to regulate and restrain decent and common amusements in the community. For we all very well know that one likes to fiddle, another to dance, another to sing, another to thump the piano, another to play ball, another cards, dice, or backgammon, another seeks amusement in the bowling-saloon, some drive fast horses and crack elegant whips, some fish, some hunt, others read frivolous, and even obscene tales and novels, while others choose useful and instructive books and periodicals, &c., &c. Now all these things, although not productive of any positive good, are nevertheless better than worse, and more corrupting amusements ; and if there are any who prefer no amusement at all, it is nobody’s business ; and they, like all others, ought to have the privilege of self-gratification (avoiding all excess) in their own way, provided they do not infringe on the rights and enjoyments of others. This is a wide world—wide enough for all to get along pretty

comfortably, provided each one will avoid running against his neighbor.

“ In faith and hope the world will disagree,  
But all mankind's concern is charity.”

It has, of late years, become very fashionable for many, especially from crowded cities, to make excursions into various parts of the country—sometimes on business, sometimes for pleasure, and occasionally for both—and they often wish to stop for a few days, or a few weeks, for the purpose of relaxation from business, and to enjoy the social amusements of the place; to view the beauties of lakes, ponds and rivers, of mountain, hill, dale, &c. We think our town, and Village, by due attention to the wishes and wants of visitors, may be made a very attractive and agreeable stopping-place for such persons; and who, among our citizens, can indulge in any other feelings than a desire for the up-building and prosperity of the place. We need not caution strangers, and others, not to visit us, or particular places in our town. It savors rather too strongly of the old Connecticut “blue-laws” for this enlightened age.

Such persons as delight in rural sights and sounds, whether strangers or residents, I would invite to take a ramble up the side of the “Pike Hill,” and seat themselves, on a summer forenoon, under some refreshing shade, and listen to the continual hum of business and pleasure proceeding from the busy multitude below, and around. Hark! hear the busy clip, clip, clip, clip, of the saw-mill, the buzz of circular saws, turning-lathes, &c., the monotonous rumble of the grist-mill, in its various departments, the click of the mason's trowel, attended with the well-known cry of “mort, more mort,” the clipping and hammering of stone by the stone-cutters, the lively clap of the joiner's hammer, the heavy thump of the carpenter's mallet, the clink of the blacksmith, (not forging fetters for serfs and slaves, but agricultural implements for a

free yeomanry, *who won't be fettered*,) and, in short, almost every sound attendant on the prosecution of almost every mechanical business; all intermingled with the rattling of carriages, from a gig to a six-horse coach, or wagon, and occasionally the loud, rough voice of the teamster to his oxen,

“ While down the rough slope the ponderous wagon rings,”

heavily loaded with rough granite for the foundations of numerous buildings in progress of erection; interspersed with all these, occasionally you will hear the sweet notes of the piano, and other musical instruments; and the noise also of

“ The playful children just let loose from school; ”

the tinkle of the tea, dinner, school, and factory-bell, and the beautifully toned church-bell; and to crown the whole, sometimes, (when they used to roll) the low rumble of the famous howling-saloon, which serves as a fine thorough-bass to the varied concert. And now let me ask, who, among the lovers of rural scenery, but must be delighted with such enchanting sights and sounds?

The writer is no advocate for the bowling-saloon, or any other vain amusement, when carried to the least excess; he never rolled a ball in the saloon, and hardly in any other place; but thinks we all ought to live and conduct in such a manner, that, when we are young, we may consider that we *may* one day be old; and when we are old, we ought *also* to consider that we have once been young.

We have in this town very many persons, of both sexes, possessing great intellectual and physical powers, exercising their minds, or bodies, or both, in laudable and useful employments; and some few idlers, loafers, and gossips, (would to God we had less) which seems to be the common lot of almost all places, of any note, or business. But perhaps it would be well for those who are so anxious to root out one:

particular evil, to remember the parable of the tares and the wheat, and to act with candor and moderation, "lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them." For the command to the servants was, to "let both grow together until the harvest; and in the time of harvest, I will say to the reapers, gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn." But a word of candid advice to the lovers of pleasure and amusements I know will be received with good feelings; and that advice is, to be "temperate in all things."

Town officers for 1850: Simon Stevens, Clerk; Ebenezer C. Shackley, Treasurer; Mark P. Smith, William Hall, Ichabod Bartlett, Selectmen; Jonathan Blake, Collector. E. R. Holmes, Oxford, Representative.

Valuation, \$200,594. Number of polls 400; number of scholars 779; whole number of inhabitants, by census, 1962.

Highway tax, \$1539,54.

State tax,	-	-	-	-	\$ 652,44
County tax,	-	-	-	-	431,03
Schools,	-	-	-	-	750,00
Poor, roads, and town charges,	-	-	-	-	1500,00
Overlayings, delinquency highway, supplement,	-	-	-	-	118,42

Total money tax, - - - \$3451,89

New immigrants: Hiram E. Abbott, Francis Bennett, Thomas F. Barton, George W. Crockett, Bethael F. Drake, Mark H. Dunnell, Isaac A. Denison, George Eveleth, Stephen Fuller, William Getchell, Oliver Goddard, Ezra Jewell, George W. Johnson, Peter Kimball, Otis F. Mixer, Charles Mallett, John H. Moore, George H. Merrill, Ausburn Merrill, William P. Merrill, Jackson Pillsbury, Charles Pike, William A. Parsons, S. J. Seavey, Zephaniah Starbird, James Stanley, George W. Sholes, Franklin Sargent, Samuel Vance, Frederick L. Young. Old settlers' sons: Erastus G. Bradbury, Franklin P. Bolster, Osgood N. Bradbury, Sewall Crockett, Grovesnor Crockett, Joseph A. Danforth, Albert



Gammon, Elijah Hobbs, Benjamin G. Hølt, Jeremiah Hall, 2d, Hanson Lord, David F. Noyes, Aaron Noble, John Smith, Calvin Shed.

In December, this year, the grist-mill at the head of the Village was burnt. It is supposed the fire took from a defect in the stove-funnel. The fire occurred in the night, and the destruction of the building, with all its contents, was complete, as little was saved from the devouring element. The mill was large and commodious; it had four run of stones, two bolts, a cleanser, and corn-cracker; and much inconvenience was experienced by the town until another was built. The establishment was owned by a wealthy company, viz: Levi Whitman, Ezra F. Beal, Ebenezer Hobbs, Nathaniel Bennett, and John B. Brown, of Portland, and was built new some fifteen years ago. Owing to their pecuniary circumstances, the distress of the owners was not so great as often follows the burning of a poor man's buildings. In 1851, the Company rebuilt the mill in a very substantial manner, and have calculated a part of it for the manufacture of superfine flour, equal to the choicest fancy brands. They have, during the winter of 1851-2, purchased western wheat, from which they make very nice flour, said to be equal to the best.

Town officers for 1851: Simon Stevens, Clerk; Ebenezer C. Shackley, Treasurer; Ichabod Bartlett, William Hall, Ansel Town, Selectmen; Jacob Bradbury, Collector. Lee Mixer, Representative.

Valuation, \$211,312. Number of polls 434; number of scholars 800.

Highway tax, \$2110,00.

State tax,	-	-	-	\$ 656,64
County tax,	-	-	-	404,72
Schools,	-	-	-	950,00
Poor, and other town charges,	-	-	-	1000,00
Overlayings,	-	-	-	64,04

Total money tax,	-	-	-	\$3075,40
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New immigrants: Hezekiah B. Bisbee, Ephraim Bean, Haney Blake, Smith Bartlett, C. B. Coffin, Job B. Crooker, Isaac Copps, Edwin Cummings, Benjamin Cobb, Asa Green, William Green, Richard Hammett, Dr. Jesse Howe, Enoch Holt, George Jackson, J. H. Kemp, Josiah P. Lovejoy, G. W. Mann, William D. Merrill, Aaron D. Mussey, Josiah Monroe, E. J. Pillsbury, Isaiah Penley, Melvin Pool, William T. Raymond, Calvin Richardson, Levi D. Stearns, Rev. H. W. Strong, Jonas Stevens, Rev. J. L. Stevens, Michael Welch, Thomas Melzeard. Old settlers' sons: William Cushman, Ansel H. Cushman, James Crockett, 2d, James S. Crockett, Amos French, Jeremiah Foster, 2d, Cyrus S. Cobb, Timothy Gorham, Benjamin F. Hall, William C. Hobbs, George A. Noyes, John W. Pingree, Jr., Albert Small, Jonathan M. Shed, Isaac N. Small, Jacob Tubbs, Rollin Town, Alanson B. Watson, John H. Witt.

In March, this year, Joel Parkhurst, while sawing shingles, received a severe wound on his left hand from the circular saw. The tendon, or cord, attached to the third finger, was cut entirely off, and the finger rendered powerless; one end of the cord protruding from the wound, it was removed with scissors. His hand was so injured that many thought it would never again be fit for active use; but it has been in a great measure restored by persevering in the "cold-water-cure" treatment; even when most inflamed and painful, no dressing but water was applied, and that always with comforting effect. In 1830, the same hand was severely wounded by a premature explosion, while Mr. Parkhurst was engaged blasting rocks, and it has suffered injuries from machinery several times; yet, though not so convenient as an unmaimed hand, it is in tolerable repair, and serves quite well its owner, who is thankful it has so well endured the various accidents.

This year, on the night of the 22d of Sept., (or the early morning of the 23d,) a great calamity, by fire, befel the Village, the sad effects of which are felt by the whole town.

The fire was first discovered in the stable of Anthony Bennett, who kept the Railroad House, about midnight. The flames spread so rapidly, that Mr. Bennett saved but a small part of the contents of the house, as it was large, and contained much furniture of various kinds. The conflagration spread from building to building, until eighteen, of all kinds, were burnt, and one, a wood-house of Mrs. Young, was pulled down to stop the fire. The following persons were the sufferers: Joseph Shackley lost his house, barn, and two sheds; A. C. Denison a very large store, stable, and shed; an extensive stock of goods of almost every description was in the store, owned by Isaac A. Denison and Joseph A. Kendall, who occupied the building; Anthony Bennett lost house, stable, a large wood and carriage shed, five valuable horses, one cow, one hog, harnesses and carriages; part of the horses were owned by other persons; Benjamin Tucker, Jr., lost house, barn, and two large sheds, with a quantity of hay and grain, carriages, harnesses, &c.; Henry Rust, Esq., a very large, well-finished house, and three large outbuildings for necessary uses. There probably was more stuff saved from the last-named houses than from Mr. Bennett's, as there was more time for removing the goods. This was a sad blow to the Village, and even to the whole town, and tenfold more so to the owners. It seemed to almost paralyze all business for a while, and it will require a long lapse of time to fully recover from the shock. The origin of this fire is still shrouded in mystery; but scarcely a doubt rests on the mind of any one but that it was the work of an incendiary. One individual, yea, two, were arrested, and examined before a magistrate touching the matter, but, the evidence not being very positive, were discharged; still, public opinion awards a verdict of guilty, on some person; but that is not legal proof. *But*, an all-wise Providence, perhaps, will not let justice slumber *always*; but will yet visit the atrocious wickedness of this deed upon the head of the *guilty one*.

On the night of the 28th of December a horrible affair took place near the middle of this town. A number of young men met for the purpose of "serenading" a party who had been recently married. In the midst of the performance, some one in the house discharged a gun, loaded with shot and peas, at the crowd. The charge principally took effect upon the person of a young man named Foster, a son of Capt. Jeremiah Foster, injuring him severely, and it was at the time feared fatally. He received from twenty to thirty shot and peas in his face and neck, one of which lodged in one of his eyes, destroying it entirely; several took effect in one of his hands, breaking the bones, and otherwise injuring it. It is reported that some others were struck by the scattering shot, but not severely injured. The horrible transaction has been, and is still to come under a judicial investigation. The young man has pretty much recovered from his wounds, but with the complete loss of his injured eye. Much excitement existed at the time, especially against the individual who was supposed to have fired the gun. This "serenading" is not very commendable, but yet it is one of the fashionable follies of the present day; and a person of common sense and humane feelings can plead no excuse for so wanton and wicked an act as firing into an indiscriminate crowd of men and boys.

Town officers for 1852: Wm. Wirt Virgin, Clerk; Ebenezer C. Shackley, Treasurer; Simon Stevens, Simeon Noble, Lee Mixer, Selectmen; Jonathan Blake, Collector. Asa Danforth, Representative.

Valuation, \$208,887. Number of polls 406; number of scholars 797; voters in March 478—in September 503.

Highway tax, as voted by the town. \$2200,00.

State tax,	-	-	-	\$ 656.66
County tax,	-	-	-	522.35
Schools,	-	-	-	950.00
Poor, and town charges,	-	-	-	1000.00
Extra road money,	-	-	-	200.00
Total money tax,	-	-	-	\$3329.01

New immigrants : E. W. Collis, John Dealy, Edgar Emery, Benjamin B. Francis, Samuel Gibson, John C. Kimball, Joseph F. Herrick, John J. Hayden, Henry Houghton, Charles Jackson, Ezekiel Jackson, Elijah G. Knight, James Lyndes, Joseph M. Little, John McGee, Alexander H. Muzzey, Isaac Merrill, Francis W. Mallett, Stuart H. Noble, James L. Paine, Thomas Plummer, George L. Plummer, Charles A. Radford, E. Robinson, John W. Raymond, Erastus Richardson, Franklin Sargent, W. H. Stillson, George Titecomb, Marshal Warren, Charles Wolcot, Ephraim F. Wood, Solomon N. Cloudman, Horace P. McAllister. Old settlers' sons : Joseph Bullen, William R. Danforth, William Frost, 4th, Elijah H. Hobbs, Darius M. Holt, Aurelius C. Noble, Benjamin G. Holt, Benjamin Tucker, 3d, Amos H. Needham, Henry A. Bradbury, Servilla A. Bennett, Charles H. Evans, Wilson Hill, Jr., Simon Stevens, 2d, Daniel Herring, George W. Millett, Edward Morse, Joshua B. Crockett, Charles F. Parkhurst.

On the 11th day of May, this year, Daniel H. Witt, a son of Benjamin Witt, and grandson of Benjamin Witt, the old settler, was suddenly killed on the railroad; he lived one hour and ten minutes after being run over. He was employed as fireman on an engine.

The following persons, in Norway, hold commissions as Justices of the Peace, and of the Quorum, viz :

*Justices Peace and Quorum*—Moses B. Bartlett, Levi Whitman, Samuel Cobb, Samuel Gibson.\* William E. Goodnow, David Noyes, Jonathan B. Smith, Jonathan Swift, Wm. Wirt Virgin. *Justices Peace*—William Foster, David F. Frost, Simeon Noble.

There have, since the first settlement of this town, been many different individuals who have engaged in trade, and have prosecuted that business for a long or short time, as

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\* Samuel Gibson formerly resided in Denmark, and is Sheriff of the County of Oxford. Asa Thayer is Deputy Sheriff at this time.



suited their interest or inclination, with various success. I here give the names of such as can be recollected, without pretending to give dates as to the time when, or how long : James Kettle, William Reed, William Hobbs, Joshua Smith, Daniel Smith, William Cox, Increase Robinson, Allan Bartlett, Jacob French, Jeremiah Mitchell, Edward Mitchell, Aaron Wilkins, William Pingree, Jonathan Swift, Ansel Field, Job E. Stevens, John B. Ford, Samuel Dunn, Jonathan Stevens, Asa Barton, Emery Livermore, George J. Ordway, Stephen Cummings, Ichabod Bartlett, Lemuel Bartlett, Anthony Bennett, David Smith, Jonathan B. Smith, Lee Mixer, Samuel Houghton, John Tucker, Stephen Greenleaf, Jr., William E. Goodnow, William Frost, 3d, William Hayes, Otis True, Josephus Harris, Cyrus Thayer, Daniel Hubbard, Jotham Goodnow, James N. Hall, Moses G. Dow, David R. Holden, Moses A. Young, Bailey Bodwell, Ezra Jewell, James Crockett, Henry L. Crockett, Ebenezer C. Shackley, Samuel Favor, Adna C. Denison, Clark P. True, Elhanan W. Fyler, Isaac A. Denison, Joseph A. Kendall, Franklin Manning, Jeremiah Howe, Edwin W. Howe, Charles P. Kimball, M. L. Burr, Charles Tubbs, Orin Tubbs, Nathan Noble, William Hor, Newton Swift, David Crockett, Elijah R. Merrill, Henry Upton, James H. Merrill, William Foster, James French, Jr., George French, Asa Noyes, Joseph Bennett, William Buck, William Howe, Kendall Deering, Henry Houghton, Francis H. Whitman, George A. Frost, George W. Knight, Charles Penley, James Tubbs, David N. Cushman. In addition to this long list, a large number of females have kept milliner's shops, for furnishing articles in the female department.

Among this multiplicity of traders are many who, in their day, did a thriving business, and many more who did not lay out to do but little. Some continued in business many years, and others but a short time. Some got rich, and others probably did not; but it takes everybody to do everything, and

men will generally do what they like best if they can. The method and character of trade has undergone great changes since the early settlements in this town. Formerly it was very difficult to sell any articles of produce for cash; hence the farmer was under the necessity of carrying much of his surplus produce to Portland in order to get a little money; and then it was quite a trick to get much, say one-half money, at best, for good staple articles. But at the present day, good staple articles will command cash, if required, at home, and but few farmers carry their surplus produce to Portland themselves. And we do sincerely hope that the town will always be blessed with good, fair, honest traders, rich enough and willing to pay the hard-laboring farmers cash when they need it.

I will here mention, though a little out of place, that Stephen Greenleaf, senior, was the first cabinet-maker in Norway Village, and in early times was considered a fine workman. He has performed the duty of sexton in the Village for many years; but is now verging toward the grave himself, as he is quite aged.

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Gentle reader, I have led you along, year by year, marking out the way through piles of old documents, and new scraps of memoranda collected with much labor, and have consulted both the living and the dead (as I have sometimes visited the grave-yard to procure dates of certain matters) to enable me to point out things in their true light and under proper dates; and now I shall proceed to show the present situation of things "about town," that you may be able to make a fair comparison between the situation of the place in 1786, and in 1852, comprising a space of 66 years. The great and principal business of the town is agriculture, although there is much mechanical and other business done at the present day, and for that matter, always has been, since its first settlement. There are now fourteen school-houses, and the same number

of school-districts, containing eight hundred scholars, and one academy, of which I shall speak hereafter. At the first-named period, this town was a howling wilderness—one unbroken forest, destitute of the first mark of civilization: now, few towns can boast of fairer fields, or a more pleasant, thriving Village. In regard to the business done in the town, besides that of farming, (which is the basis of all other business,) I will commence with affairs at the Steep Falls.

The stream which furnishes the water-power is the outlet of the great Pennessewassee pond, and the whole fall is about sixty-five feet, within a distance of twenty rods, or less. The upper privilege is occupied by the paper-mill of Dr. Asa Danforth; it is built on the most improved plan, and does a good business. This establishment uses up 100 tons of rags, 175 cords of wood, 150 casks of lime, 12 casks chloride of lime, 960 pounds oil of vitriol, and turns out \$15,000 worth of paper annually. Three men and three girls are employed. George W. Seaverns foreman and superintendent. This is a very fine privilege for the paper-making business, on account of the clearness and softness of the water, which far surpasses many other privileges improved for like purposes. The mill was put in operation in Jan., 1848, and the paper manufactured in it has already established a high reputation.

On the next fall is a shingle-machine, and an engine-lathe, owned by Joel Parkhurst, who saws 200 thousand of shingles per year, and sometimes more, besides other business.

On the lower fall is A. C. Denison's saw-mill, which cuts out about 600 thousand of lumber per year. J. B. Crooker foreman.

On the lower fall, also, opposite the saw-mill, is Brown & Co.'s iron-foundry, in which are manufactured, largely, stoves, fire-frames, ash, oven, and boiler-mouths, agricultural implements, wheel-hubs, and almost anything else made in such establishments, besides a large business in the manufacture of butt-hinges, latches, &c.; they have two engine-lathes,

and are prepared to execute almost any work in wood or iron that is called for; there are used 150 tons of iron, and 50 tons of coal per year. Connected with this establishment, is a shop for working tin and sheet-iron, and a large store of goods of almost all kinds, which are sold to the amount of \$25,000 per year, exclusive of their castings. J. B. Brown, of Portland, principal, or sole owner; Franklin Manning, superintendent. Works started in 1847, and yearly increasing.

A new store has been opened near Brown & Co.'s by Henry Houghton, within the past year, not long enough since to determine, with much accuracy, the amount of business; but probably about \$6000 to \$8000 per year.

Adna C. Denison came from Vermont to Norway in 1842, and commenced trade in the store of J. B. Brown, at the Steep Falls, (the same store now occupied by Brown & Co.) and in a short time did a great business for a country store. He carried on trade on a different scale from what had previously been customary in this section of the country: he bought almost every commodity offered, which could be considered a proper article of traffic, and for staple articles paid cash, if required; in this way he soon drew around him a large amount of business. He remained at the Falls about four years, and then moved his quarters to near the center of the Village; soon after, he purchased the stand next door east of Bennett's tavern, where he made large additions to the building, and erected a stable and other things necessary for his large business; his trade amounted to about \$50,000 per year. This trade was under the name of Denison & True; afterwards, Denison, True & Kendall; and at the time of the destructive fire, his brother, Isaac A. Denison, and Joseph A. Kendall, occupied the store, and were, with others, great sufferers. Isaac A. Denison and Joseph A. Kendall have resumed trade since the fire, and now occupy the store near the center bridge; they are doing a good business, probably at the rate of \$30,000 per year; and it is hoped that the trading community

will not be unmindful of them, as a good run of custom would do much to make them forget their heavy loss.

Jeremiah and Edwin W. Howe are carrying on trade in the brick store near the center of the Village, built in 1830, and first occupied by Emery Livermore. Jeremiah Howe commenced trade in this store in July, 1835, and has continued since in the same building. His brother, E. W. Howe, is now a partner in the business; their trade amounts to something like \$20,000 per year. Pretty good business for the old mail-carrier's descendants. They are grandsons of Jacob Howe, who carried the first mail through Norway, and used to sound his tin horn, as he approached the post-office, and neighborhoods where any one took the old "Portland Gazette," or "Eastern Argus;" and even *these papers*, at that day, were only in their swaddling-clothes, compared with the present time.

James H. Merrill carries on trade in a store built, a few years since, by George J. Ordway; he deals in English and West India goods, and ready-made clothing; does a pretty good business, amounting, probably, to about \$8000 or \$10,000 per year.

Ebenezer C. Shackley and Samuel Favor trade near the head of the Village; they keep a good assortment of articles of almost all kinds, and do a thriving business, probably about \$10,000 or \$15,000 per year; among their stock is a good assortment of joiner's tools and hardware.

James Crockett trades at the head of the Village, and has traded there for many years; he never kept a large stock of goods, but does a steady, snug little business, and probably makes as good a living as any of them. He is the town agent for selling spirituous liquors for medicinal and mechanical purposes. He has long been licensed as a retailer, and is as careful and discreet in selling the article as the most fastidious could wish. When his father, Joshua Crockett, moved into the place, he was a small boy, and has seen the town grow up



to its present state. In 1817, he was chosen Constable and Collector of taxes, and since that time has collected the taxes of the town twenty-three years, and been Constable ever since, and Coroner for many years, also; and when the taxes were collected, the money was always put in the right place, and that is saying considerable.

The tanning business is carried on largely in the Village by Mark P. Smith. He commenced in 1841 with fifteen pits, and has been making additions to his buildings and pits ever since; and at the present time has fifty-six pits. He takes in 400 slaughter hides yearly, and tans at least 1700 hides and 400 calf-skins annually; he uses 200 cords of bark, and \$200 worth of oil and tallow in finishing his leather.

Ebenezer Hobbs, the third child born in Rustfield, has carried on the blacksmith and plow business for many years; he makes from 50 to 150 plows annually; and from 1820 up to 1842, when the old-fashioned plows were used, he made many more than that number. He has done a large business in ironing carriages and sleighs; for several years he has had a small foundery, and does his own castings; and the probability is, that he has hammered out on his anvil, and cast in his foundery, a good many hard dollars—and he has worked hard to get them.

While speaking of plows, I will give the history of the first one ever made, or used, in the place; and that plow was constructed for Mr. Dudley Pike. In the spring of 1790, Anthony and Nathaniel Bennett came up from New Gloucester to look out land, in order to purchase and settle on the same, and went to Dudley Pike's to stay over night, on their arrival in Rustfield. After exploring and selecting their lots, they returned to the same hospitable cabin for another night's lodging before returning home. Mr. Pike happened to have a set of old plow-irons, and they tarried another day with their host, and made a plow for him, which was a very valuable acquisition to his new farm, and probably did not come

amiss to his few neighbors. And posterity may set it down, that Capt. Anthony, and Lieut. Nathaniel Bennett, were the builders of the first plow in Norway.

Horatio G. Cole cards wool and dresses cloth. He came to Norway in 1820, and tended a carding-machine a few years for Nathaniel Bennett, near the grist-mill; he then bought the machine, and afterwards purchased the privilege where Bailey Bodwell first erected clothier's works, and since has carried on both branches; thus he has had a very good chance to "pull the wool over the eyes" of the whole town. He cards, or has carded, from 15,000 to 20,000 pounds of wool annually; but carding and cloth-dressing are not so fashionable as they were thirty years ago. Then you could hear the music of the spinning-wheel and loom in almost every house, and men and women, boys and girls, were clad in home-spun and home-dressed garments.

We have a few men to cut up leather after Mark P. Smith tans it. Solomon S. Hall manufactures 600, or more, pairs of boots and shoes annually. Lee Mixer has done a large business in the shoe line, probably to the amount of \$4000 per year. Hawkins & Stearns do about \$2500 per year. Many others in different parts of the town do much custom work, and use a large quantity of leather. Benjamin Tucker, Jr., also helps off the leather; he works at the harness-making and carriage-trimming business, to the amount of \$500, annually.

Thomas H. Kelley, a tailor, cuts up Cole's cloth, and that of everybody else, which comes in his way. The amount of work done in his shop probably amounts to \$2000, or more, annually. He makes *good fits*—otherwise he would do *much less*.

An apothecary store is kept by Robert Noyes in the old store first built by William Reed; but the building has a large addition to its former size, and is fitted up in good style. Amount of drugs and medicines sold annually, \$1000. In

the same building is a bookstore and bindery, managed by Robert Noyes and George L. Beal; amount of business about \$1000 annually.

Bulpit & Barnard, formerly of Boston, carry on a large business, for a country place, in the cabinet and furniture manufacture. They have very nice machinery for doing much of the labor, and can probably sell furniture cheaper, for the quality, than any other concern of the kind in this section of the country. They turn out about \$15,000 worth annually.

The mills at the head of the Village, owned by the company before spoken of, do a good business; the grist-mill grinds from ten to sixteen thousand bushels per year, and sometimes more; and the saw-mill cuts out from two to three hundred thousand of lumber per year. There are four other saw-mills in the town besides those at the Village and the Falls, viz: Col. John Millett's, on the outlet of North pond, which cuts out from one hundred to one hundred and fifty thousand annually; Holden's mill, on Crooked river, which saws from two hundred to eight or ten hundred thousand per year, with a shingle-machine which manufactures from two hundred to six or eight hundred thousand of shingles annually. Another saw-mill and shingle-machine stands on the Upton brook, and does considerable business—amount unknown to the writer. The latter mill, as previously stated, has been three times destroyed by fire, and Holden's mill once burnt. Jonathan Swift, Esq., has a grist-mill and a shingle-machine near the old Upton privilege, which do some business, but the stream being small, does not afford a sufficient supply of water in dry times. Capt. Richard Lombard has a saw-mill on the Everett brook, and cuts a large quantity of lumber each spring.

In 1847, Charles P. Kimball came into Norway Village, and commenced the sleigh and carriage-making business. At first he had from two to four hands employed in his shop, and had his iron-work done in other shops; but his work proving

quite satisfactory to purchasers, he gradually increased his help from six to fifteen, or more, hands. In the spring of 1850, he purchased a water-privilege near Mr. Cole's works, and erected a large shop, 100 feet by 32, and three stories high; the lower story is built of split stone, and used for the blacksmith shop, where he has all his sleighs and carriages ironed under his own direction; the machinery of the establishment probably cost more than \$2000. He now employs about forty hands in all departments of his business, that is, on the wood-work, ironing, painting, and trimming. He uses a large amount of lumber, iron, coal, leather, paints, oil, and varnish, and sells more than one hundred wheel carriages, and two or three times that number of sleighs; besides doing a great deal of small jobbing and repairing. His carriages and sleighs go into almost every part of the State, and many into New Hampshire and Massachusetts. He has recently established a depository for his carriages in Portland, and has a salesman to sell the same as opportunity shall offer. Last year he purchased the old stand where William Cox formerly traded and lived, and has almost built the store anew, and fitted it up in a handsome style for the purpose of trade; and a large quantity of articles are wanted by the men in his employ, and by other people, who can as well trade with him as with any other person, provided he sells articles as good and as cheap as others. The old Cox house, it will be recollected, was the first two-story building erected in the Village, and was occupied by Mr. Cox from 1808 to 1843. While trading here, he sold a great amount of goods, and accumulated a decent property, besides bringing up a large family of children; he now sleeps in the silent tomb.

Perhaps the reader will wonder what so many folks in the Village live on; I will just tell what helps them some about living. Maj. Henry W. Millett kills and cuts up from 120 to 150 head of beef cattle, 40 or 50 round hogs, 150 veal calves, and from 600 to 1000 sheep and lambs annually, and



keeps his meat-carriage running sufficiently to supply the needy and destitute. And near Maj. Millett lives Josiah Munroe, a baker, who bakes up the good, *little* and *great* cakes, which the children love dearly—even the “children of larger growth.” He uses from eight to ten barrels of flour per week, and sometimes more.

There are a number of blacksmiths in the town, several of whom are in the Village: E. G. Allen, Amos T. Murphy, Hosea B. Bisbee, Joshua B. Stuart, Sumner Hale, William Hayes, Dudley Woodbridge, P. D. Judkins. Amos T. Murphy now owns the same anvil and bellows used by the first blacksmith in town, Benjamin Witt. The bellows has been newly leathered several times, but the anvil is a hard-faced old fellow, and stands the blows well yet.

There are three watch-menders and jewelers near the central part of the Village, viz: Simeon Walton, old, honest, and experienced—he also rings the bell, and is always very exact about the time; C. B. Coffin works in the same shop with Mr. Walton; and William M. Cushman, whose sign is near the apothecary store.

Then, for gentlemen’s convenience, there is a barber, Jonathan Blake, who shaves and tonsures in genteel style; and in a part of his shop sells confectionary, fruit, nuts, &c., making a pretty little business of the whole concern.

Loren H. Wisley manufactures rifles, fowling-pieces, pistols, and many other things in his line; and all work goes out of his hands in a highly-finished style.

Jeremiah Hobbs, C. W. Hobbs, and Alanson B. Watson, make pumps and lay aqueducts.

Thomas Higgins has an establishment at the head of the Village for working tin and sheet-iron.

In short, we have mechanics and workmen that can furnish almost any article, from a tin whistle to an omnibus, and even to a book, as this book is entirely of home-manufacture. The materials for the work had their origin in Norway; the writer,



the paper-maker, the printer, and the book-binders, are all of Norway; and we earnestly hope to find a corresponding liberal patronage in the old town of Norway.

E. P. Fitz must not be overlooked among the other useful members of our little community; he is a glazier, painter, and paper-hanger of the first order; his graining on inside finishing looks rich and beautiful, and he likes to be called on in his business line.

The town is well supplied with carpenters and house-joiners; the following are in and about the Village: Enoch L. Knight, Granville L. Reed, Richard Evans, J. A. Small, Lorenzo Hathaway, James S. Greenleaf, Stephen Greenleaf, Jr., Ansel Dinsmore, George Jackson, John Deering, Amos Ordway, George W. Sholes, Ephraim H. Brown, Otis F. Mixer, and George W. Mann, sash, door, and blind-maker; in other parts of the town are, Col. Amos F. Noyes, Henry Small, Isaac N. Small, Samuel B. Gurney, Capt. J. Whitmarsh, Clark Knight, Lemuel Lovejoy, Thomas Lovejoy, Capt. Cephas Sampson, Theodore L. Lassell, Eben Marston, and some others who do common work when necessary.

I have said much about ornamental things, but just now permit me to refer to one very useful and profitable affair; that is, Jonathan B. Smith's nursery of fruit trees. He has several acres covered with fruit trees, mostly of the apple kind, and probably has of all kinds nearly, or quite, half a million; they are mostly budded or engrafted, of all ages and sizes, from the little pips of one year old, up to a handsome size for transplanting, and of the best standard kinds of fruit. He has raised them on purpose to sell; and now, gentlemen farmers, don't let this fine nursery grow up like a forest, and become worthless for want of a ready sale. But to encourage you to purchase some of these fine trees, I will tell you a little matter-of-fact story about apple trees. In the spring of 1815, I commenced on a new lot of land where I now live, and as soon as I had cleared and prepared land suitable for

such purposes. I sowed a small nursery ; and when the trees became big enough, transplanted some of them for an orchard, and sold the rest ; and have since then raised many thousands of trees for sale, and have continued to set more trees every few years up to the present year. I have engrafted all my trees except those set within a few years, and raise no fruit but that which is engrafted. My orchard now produces so many apples that I sell one hundred barrels yearly, and have enough for home use ; and in fact, in my humble opinion, a farmer can not invest his money and labor in any way on his farm to so much profit as in the right cultivation of the apple. No State in the Union can produce so good apples for shipping as Maine ; and if the wheat crop should continue to fail us, we can easily raise our flour on apple trees. I am not a partner in Mr. Smith's nursery, but I wish to see our farmers awake to their own interests ; and as apple trees are my hobby which I ride every spring, you will pardon my notice of Mr. Smith's tree-garden. The writer has set sixty thousand scions within the last ten springs, besides his own, and never made a bad failure.

The printing business in Norway commenced on a small scale as early as 1826. Asa Barton then commenced publishing the "Oxford Observer" in this Village, (he had previously published a paper of the same title on Paris Hill,) and from 1828 William P. Phelps was associated with him till April, 1829, when William E. Goodnow bought out the interest of Asa Barton, and the paper was published by Goodnow and Phelps till October, 1830 ; at that time Goodnow bought out the interest of Phelps, and published the Observer till June, 1832, when the title of said paper was changed to the "Politician," edited by William A. Evans, to conform to the high state of political feeling then existing, on the eve of a Presidential election. The Politician was continued till April, 1833, when the establishment was sold to Horatio King, of Paris, who took it, with the "Jeffersonian" establishment,

to Portland, and the County was destitute of any paper till June, 1833; at that time Asa Barton commenced the publication of the "Oxford Oracle," an independent paper, and having issued seven numbers, sold the establishment; and the "Oxford Democrat" was then started in Paris by George W. Millett, who continued its publication nearly eighteen years. In April, 1832, the "Journal of the Times," a small, independent, weekly paper, was commenced by William E. Goodnow, and published about three months, but was then discontinued, from the fact of its interfering with the subscription list of the Politician. In March, 1830, a small, independent paper, called the "Village Spy," was commenced by Asa Barton, and in a short time discontinued for want of patronage. Asa Barton became an attorney some years before his death. The "Norway Advertiser," an independent family paper, was commenced by Ira Berry, in March, 1844, and subsequently published by Ira Berry and Francis Blake, Jr.; and after the dissolution of the copartnership, by said Berry alone, again. The paper was then published by Edwin Plummer, then by Albert B. Davis and Cyrus W. Brown, then by Thomas Witt, and lastly by Mark H. Dunnell; he soon altered the name to the "Pine State News," but the pines are become so scarce in this vicinity, that it seemed to be rather lonesome, and finally was discontinued in Jan., 1851. In July, 1851, a new paper under the old name of the Norway Advertiser, printed on a large, handsome sheet, was established by Moses B. Bartlett, Esq.; it was subsequently purchased by George W. Millett, who now owns and publishes the same, and has a handsome patronage. Up to the present paper, with the exception of the Politician, the Norway papers have been what, in common parlance, are styled neutral papers; but within a few months the Advertiser has shed its old neutral skin, and appears at this time in a democratic garb. This course, in my humble opinion, is about right, for I should think an editor and publisher, of any *mind* and *tal-*

*ents* must feel as though he were in a straight jacket, to be all the time catering for a set of nobodys and nothings, who do not belong to any party, but are ready to join any popular current which happens to be in the ascendancy. For myself, I always wish to be pretty certain about knowing to what particular genus every creature which I feed belongs, whether it be pig or puppy. I should have liked the paper full as well had it come out under whig colors; but the editor and myself shall probably never quarrel about opinions, for he has as good right to enjoy and exercise *his* as I have *mine*; but at all events, these papers of the neuter gender I don't think much of, except they are, in reality, literary papers. They remind me, too much, of the man who prayed, first to the Lord, and then to the devil, because he did not know certain "into whose hands" he might hereafter fall.

Among other improvements in the town and Village, is a first-rate engine for extinguishing fires; although it is desirable to have but little use for it, yet should another calamitous fire, like that of last fall, happen, we hope it may be instrumental in saving much property from the devouring element. The two Village school-districts have become a corporate body for the purpose of procuring an engine, and the town very liberally voted to pay \$500 towards the same; and we fervently hope that no tax-payer will ever have cause to regret the appropriation; it is also hoped that the members of the engine company may never grow cold in their attachment to the "Oxford Bear."\*

Late in the evening of the 29th of April, 1852, the house of Moses B. Bartlett, Esq., was discovered to be on fire. The alarm was instantly given, and in a few minutes the engine company with the "Bear" were on the ground; shortly afterwards the fire was extinguished, and the house saved. This was their first essay in squirting water at the "real

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\*The name of the engine.



element," and they were signally successful. May they long wait for another trial of their skill and prowess.

The "Norway Sax Horn Band" has been recently organized, and bids fair to become celebrated for "discoursing sweet music." Such an organization is useful as well as ornamental, and was much needed on some occasions. Success attend the enterprise.

And now, almost last, but not least, is the Academy to be noticed. This institution is incorporated under the title of "The Norway Liberal Institute." The building is large and commodious, stands on a very dry and handsome elevation, open to a good, wholesome circulation of pure air, and seems every way fitted, under proper management, combined with a proper disposition in the students, to be a fine place for the acquisition of useful knowledge. It was opened in 1847, under favorable auspices; in a catalogue for that year, I find the teachers were as follows: Ebenezer P. Hinds, Principal; Jacob W. Brown, Vice Principal; John O. Coolidge, Charles H. Nickerson, Silas S. Gifford, Lemuel Bourne, Assistants; Isaiah H. Baker, Teacher of Penmanship; Miss Mary F. Chase, Preceptress; Miss Mary A. A. Additon, Teacher of Music; Miss Anne N. Deering, Teacher of Drawing and Painting. Number male students, 83, female, 91; total, 174. In 1848-49, the school was under the direction of J. G. Eveleth, Principal; Walter M. Hatch, Assistant; and Miss Nancy F. Shaw in the female department. In 1850, the school was taught by Mark H. Dunnell, Principal; Thomas F. Barton, Warren F. Barnes, Assistants; and Miss Catherine Woodman in the female department. Such other assistants were employed as were necessary for the instruction of the various branches required to be taught in the institution.

The institution has no permanent funds for its support, like many other, and older, Academies, but has to rely on its own earnings to support itself; and it is hoped that a discerning public will patronize this self-supported school as much, at



least, as they would one which has been endowed with funds by the State. And while thinking and writing on this subject, I will at once enter my caveat against our Legislature's granting land or money to any incorporated literary institution. The reasons why they should not, are obvious to my mind, and I hope they will for the future be to the members of the Legislature. In the first place, as a general thing, the sons and daughters of the more opulent class enjoy, by far, the greatest advantages of such schools—as the poorer classes are not able to be at the expense of sending their children to schools of so high a grade; and, furthermore, the rich are abundantly able to provide such schools without the aid of the State. I would not be understood as wishing to throw any impediment in the way of the education of our youth; but contrary to that, I would open *wide*, and *wider*, the door for the education of the *poor man's child*, as well as the *child* of the *rich man*. If the State has anything to bestow for the encouragement of education, let it be granted towards the support of our primary schools; in this way the benefits will reach all classes of the community, poor as well as rich. This would be acting a little in imitation of our Heavenly Father, “who causeth the sun to shine on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.” In fact, I think the best disposition that could be made of a portion of our State lands, would be to grant it for the purpose of raising a fund for aiding our primary schools. Doubtless some argue in this way, that our primary schools do not afford such advantages as they wish their children to enjoy; very good; then send them to a higher school, but not at the expense of the State. Furthermore, if our primary schools are not of so high a grade as some desire, then I say, apply the right remedy, and do something in a substantial way to raise them to the proper standard. For it must be obvious to every reflecting mind, that our primary schools are the great nurseries, from which are transplanted all those towering geniuses

which ornament our academies, colleges, the learned professions, and halls of legislation, throughout our happy land. But I must stop this tirade, lest some should think that I am arguing the cause of education before our grave legislature ; and I fervently hope they will be assailed with stronger arguments than these on the subject hereafter.

The present teachers in the Institute are William D. Putnam, Principal, and Miss Emeline F. Wright, Assistant. It is presumed that the advantages for students, male or female, at this institution, are equal, at least, to any similar institution in this section of the country.

The town has a small school fund, the interest amounting annually to \$13,70, which accrued from the sale of some land granted to the town by the legislature of Massachusetts, prior to our separation from that State. At the time of the distribution of the surplus revenue, the writer believed it would be good policy for the town to convert the money into a permanent school fund, and expend the interest annually towards the support of our primary schools ; a few others were of the same opinion, but the majority thought otherwise. Probably they made a very prudent calculation, as *some* are careful to see to the spending of all their earnings, lest the next generation should not appropriate them to proper purposes. But such a fund would have been an honorable monument to have erected ; and would have been productive of much benefit to posterity.

The whole amount of taxes assessed and paid in the town since its incorporation is as follows :

Highway tax,	-	-	-	\$94,151 98
Money tax, including State and County,				91,398 08
				<hr/>
Total amount of taxes,	-	-	-	\$185,550 06

Individuals in the town of Norway own about 230 shares in the Atlantic & St. Lawrence Railroad, which we hope will ultimately be beneficial to the business of the town and Vil-

lage. E. F. Beal, Esq., is one of the Directors, and has been since its commencement.

At the first establishment of the post-office in Norway, or soon after, the receipts in the office for one quarter amounted to 18 3-4 cents, (this was the very lowest extreme;) the amount of receipts for the quarter ending June 30th, 1851, being the last quarter under the old law, was \$195,05 1-2 cents; and for the quarter ending March 31st, 1852, being the last quarter under the new law, \$104,73. This is rather a wide contrast, but many other things have expanded in nearly the same ratio. The receipts in the post-office at North Norway are unknown to the writer, but probably are rather small compared with the Village office; still it is a great convenience to the upper part of the town. Daniel Noble is post-master.

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I must begin to think about drawing towards the close of this imperfect sketch, but before I do that fully, I must be indulged in making a few comparisons of matters and things, although comparisons are said, by some, to be invidious; but I will try and not hit any one hard if I can help it; and, furthermore, I do not mean comparisons about persons, but about things.

Half a century ago, our beautiful Village consisted of a rude corn-mill, a saw-mill, a blacksmith's shop, and one store, where was kept for sale, rum, molasses, sugar, (mostly maple sugar) a little tea and coffee, tobacco, salt, salt-fish, and a few other groceries; a little calico, (oftentimes purchased by the pattern, say six yards to a pattern in those days) a little India cotton shirting and sheeting, a bag of cotton-wool, as it was then called, and other little *etceteras* to make up an assortment; and was finally a pretty good store for that day. There was no school-house in the Village at that time, and but two in the whole town. Houses small, poor, few and far between, with here and there a barn; and most of the new farms were dotted with a log house and log hovel, and many

with nothing but a rude hut to afford nightly shelter to the brawny laborer who was reclaiming the land from the wilderness. Roads were few and poor, and the vehicles of conveyance poorer. The new settlers generally had large families of half-clad, hungry children around them, and everything wore the aspect of poverty and want.

I hope no fastidious reader will sneer at the uncouth appearance of our town while she was dressed in this simple and homely garb of childhood; for, even at that day, there was good promise that improvement in the circumstances of life, conveniences, manners, and morals, would succeed those days and years of poverty and privation. Now some one, perhaps, will ask, what were the grounds of hope for improvement in that dark time? I will tell you. There were many hard hands, stout arms, and courageous hearts, not only in the fields and woods, but in the houses also;—hearts that did not quail at a little hardship. The fathers wielded the axe, the handspike, the crowbar, shovel and hoe, with all the other implements necessary for new farming, and also all the implements necessary for the mechanical business of the times; the sons followed in the footsteps of their fathers. The good mothers were well acquainted with the dish-kettle, the frying-pan, the churn, and cheese-tub, and almost daily and nightly furnished sweet music on the spinning-wheel and loom; the fair daughters did the same. And it is not at all surprising to a careful observer, that such causes should produce a great and important change in the lapse of half a century.

But where, now, let me ask, are the first founders of our town? Where the Rusts, the Cummingses, the Eastman, the Stevenses, the Hobbses, the Bartletts, the Parsonsese, the Witt, the Milletts, the Smith, the Woodman, the Pikes, the Herring, the Noble, the Fuller, the Meriam, the Bennett, the Uptons, the Foster, the Holt, the Noyeses, the Sheds, the Farrar, the Reed, the Crocketts, the venerable Ames, with a host of other equally venerable and meritorious names, who

bore the heat and burden of the day in the settlement of this town and Village? Alas! they have gone to that spirit land, from whose bourne no traveler returns! Let us erect a monument of gratitude in our hearts to perpetuate the remembrance of the founders of this our beautiful town, who so nobly battled with hardships, toil, and sometimes hunger and cold, in subduing a wilderness, that they might leave to their posterity a land flowing with milk and honey. And may posterity learn wisdom and prudence from their departed ancestors, covering with the mantle of charity their faults and frailties, if any they had, and imitating and multiplying their praiseworthy acts.

Now, let us take a careful view of the advantages, improvements and conveniences which we enjoy, and see if we, as a community, have not a little ground for an honest pride; and cause for great thankfulness for our present situation and prospects, when compared with former times. For by the long-continued practice of industry and economy, our town and Village have made rapid advances in agricultural improvements, in buildings, in mechanical business of almost all kinds, and in the mercantile line. We have now no less than fourteen school-houses, a splendid academy, five meeting-houses, twelve or fifteen stores, ten or more blacksmith's shops, two iron-foundries, seven saw-mills, two grist-mills, clapboard, shingle, and lath-machines, plough manufactory, one large carriage manufactory, beside several smaller ones, goldsmith's and gunsmith's shops, milliner's and dress-maker's shops, (and fine fingers to do up these matters in elegant style,) large shoe and boot establishments, besides many other smaller establishments for the accommodation of different parts of the town, a large furniture warehouse, a printing-press and weekly newspaper, (which, by the way, does up things pretty well,) a large paper-mill of the latest improvement, an extensive tannery, apothecary and barber's shops, a book-bindery, carding and clothier's mills, and tailors to work up the cloth in as



good as Boston or New York style, two post-offices, three attorney's offices, all ably filled, three regularly bred physicians, all in deservedly high repute, dentists occasionally, (I may almost say continually) and patent medicines almost anywhere, a splendid hotel in the Village, with a gentlemanly landlord, a baker and butcher to supply the daily wants of the hungry, besides many other things necessary and convenient.

And now, after seeing you all so well provided for, I must commit you to the care of a kind Providence, and bid you adieu, fondly hoping that the next half century will be as productive of improvements in the condition of the town as the preceding half has been. If any should think that I have rated things on too low a scale, they must impute it to my dull apprehension; and if too high, the citizens of the town must strive to come up to the standard.

## R E C O R D

Of deaths in the town of Norway, from 1820 to 1852, as kept, and kindly furnished by Mrs. MERCY A. WHITMAN.

1 8 2 0 .

May 2, Mrs. Mary Cleaves, aged 92 years. June 21, Solomon Smith, 23, fits. July 12, Maj. Jonathan Cummings, 42, suicide. Aug. 23, Judith Ayer, 2, fever; 25, Capt. Henry Rust, 59, consumption; 30, Edwin P. Reed, 2, dysentery. Sept. 8, Mrs. Whiting, 32; 10, Martha C. Tucker, 8 months; 26, Asa Lovejoy, jr., 47, consumption. Nov. 20, Child of J. Dolley, 7 months. Dec. 24, Mrs. Tubbs, 68; 26, Miss Martha Davis, 65, fever.

1 8 2 1 .

Feb. 5, child of Anjier Tubbs, 17 months; 21, child of William Twombly, 5 months. March 17, child of James French, jr.; 27, Mr. Peter Everett, senior; one of the early settlers, and a native of France; he came to this country previous to the revolution; 27, child of John Case, 17 months. Aug. 25, Martha Twombly, 3, dysentery. Sept. 15, Mrs. Churchill, 25, consumption. Oct. 29, child of Mr. Lord, 3 weeks. Nov. 7, Emma Stevens, 38, consumption.

1 8 2 2 .

Feb. 2, child of John Case, 18 months, fever; 24, Mrs. Bartlett, 43, mortification. March, child of Joseph Small, 17 months; 26, Mrs. Sarah Eastman, 71, rheumatic consumption. April 23, Capt. Ward Noyes, 50, fever. May 7, Widow Bartlett, 65, apoplexy. Dec. 10, Joseph Frost, 18, scrofula; 10, child of Joseph Shackley.

1 8 2 3 .

Jan. 2, child of S. Emery, 6 weeks. April 1, child of Thomas Judkins, 18 months; 2, child of William Reed, 4 weeks; 14, Mrs. Moses Houghton, 42; 22, child of J. Rowe, 10. July 10, child of Mr. Howe, 7, fever. Aug. 9, Mr. Enoch Merrill, 80; came to Norway in 1802; 26, child

of Jonathan Stevens, dysentery; 27, Martha B. Hall, 4, fever; 27, child of Joel Stevens, 1, whooping-cough; 27, child of William Corson. Child of John Merrill. Child of E. Bancroft, dysentery. Sept. 6, child of N. Morse, lung fever. Child of J. Bancroft, dysentery. Sept. 12, Mrs. Benjamin Peabody, dysentery; 13, child of Reuben Hill, 18 months, dysentery. Three children of Hezekiah Pingree, dysentery. Child of E. Merrill, jr., dysentery. Child of E. Merrill, dysentery. Child of Mr. Bancroft, dysentery. Sept. 14, Mrs. Elijah Flint, dysentery; 20, child of J. Hall, 1, cough. Child of Mr. Hutchinson, dysentery. Oct. 6, child of M. Lassell, dysentery; 8, child of Simeon Noble, 4, dysentery. Child of David Morse, 9, dysentery. Nov., child of John Case, fever.

## 1824.

Jan. 2, child of J. Knight, fever; 28, child of Dea. B. Herring, quinsy. Feb. 1, Mr. Stephen Latham, 55, colic; 16, Andrew Meriam, 19, decline. April 14, child of Israel Millett, fever; 30, Fatima Millett, 10, quinsy. May 10, Mrs. Shed, consumption; 18, child of Aaron Shackley, 7 weeks, fits. June 18, Mrs. Jeremiah Hobbs, 79, lung fever; she was one of the oldest settlers. Aug. 1, child of C. Pike, 4, dysentery. Aaron O. Hall, 18 months, fever. Aug. 8, C. F. Pike, 4, dysentery; 23, Martha Bartlett, 10 months, dysentery. Sept. 5, M. E. Greenleaf, 15 months, dysentery; 6, Orvella Tucker, 3, canker; 7, Laura S. Morey, 2; 27, Catharine Knight, consumption. Oct. 14, William F. Beal, 15 months.

## 1825.

Jan. 17, child of J. Pike. James Noyes, consumption. March 3, child of W. Mitchell, 2, fever; 26, Mrs. H. Noble, 58, consumption. April 29, child of J. Hobbs, 8 months. May 26, Rebekah Downing, 16, fever. July 12, Mrs. H. Archer, 84; 29, Mrs. Case, 90, dropsy; she moved into Norway in 1793, in an ox-cart, from Middleton, Mass. Aug. 2,

child of J. Smith, 1, fever; 15, child of Darius Holt, jr.; 27, child of Reuben Hill, 2, dysentery. Sept. 3, child of J. Shackley, canker; 6, child of William Lord, 1, dysentery; 16, Lydia M. Fuller, fever; 21, child of William Frost, 4, dysentery; 24, child of J. Pike, 2, dysentery; 26, child of H. Pingree, 3; 29, Mrs. S. Smith, 47, jaundice.

1 8 2 6.

March 12, Mr. David Frost, 83, influenza. May 9, Mr. Eben Cobb, 70, consumption; 18, Mr. Israel Millett, 40. June 3, Mr. William Pierce, 40; killed by a tree falling on him; he lived a few days after the accident. Dec. 24, Polly Churchill, 3 months.

1 8 2 7.

Jan. 13, Nathan Noble, 65; injured fatally by the fall of a tree. Bravety Marston, 15, colic. Jan. 23, Mrs. Saunders, 45, consumption; 27, Lucinda A. Shackley, 18, dropsy. March 9, child of J. Hall, 1. May 8, Mrs. Winkley, jaundice; 19, Lydia C. Noble, wife of S. Noble, 22. June 6, Mrs. E. Whitmarsh, 70; 26, Mrs. Whitney, old age; her house was the first building burned in Norway. July 29, child of J. Hall, 4 months, quinsy. Aug., Mr. Howard. Sept. 3, Mrs. French, 68, consumption; 3, child of H. Pingree. Oct. 1, child of D. Holt; 19, child of M. Upton. Nov., child of William Parsons, jr., quinsy. Child of William Hor. Dec. 28, Mrs. Israel Pike, consumption.

1 8 2 8.

Jan. 12, child of Asa Barton, 5. Child of Mrs. Cushman, 18 months. March 26, Mrs. Brown, 37, fits. May 12, Judith P. Tucker, 4, quinsy; 23, Olive Latham, 22, consumption. June 1, Harriet Foster, 8, fits; 4, child of J. Hall; 21, Mrs. Sally Shackley, 42, consumption. Aug. 19, child of Joseph York, 4, dysentery; 23, child of Joseph York, 2, dysentery. Sept. 2, Sally Greenleaf, 22; 4, child of Capt. H. Rust, 14 months; 6, child of D. Young, 4, quinsy. Oct. 5, child of J. Bennett, 5, quinsy. Nov. 5, Sarah Rust, 4 3-4,

quinsy; 11, Henry Rust, 3, quinsy. Dec. 28, child of J. Bradbury.

## 1829.

Jan. 1, Mrs. Witt, wife of Benj. Witt, 50, consumption; 17, Hannah Gorham, 20, consumption. March 1, Mrs. Josiah Blanchard, 48, fever; 8, John Robinson, 70, dropsy. April 18, Levi Frank, 63; killed by falling into a cellar while moving a house. May 14, Mrs. Ruth Cade, 88. June 25, Jacob French, 40, fever. July 10, child of Nathaniel Millett, 2, lung fever. Aug. 2, child of Levi Shed, dysentery. Sept. 2, Woodman Bartlett, 8, fever; 30, child of Simon Stevens, 16 months, quinsy. Oct. 20, Mrs. John S. Shed, 30, consumption. Nov. 19, Harriet Buck, 12, fever; 25, Mrs. S. Buck, 42, fever; 28, child of Mrs. Hall, 4 months. Dec., child of William Lovejoy.

## 1830.

Jan. 2, child of Hoyt Pingree, 13; 28, child of John Witt, 3, quinsy. Feb. 9, David Smith, 30, fever. May 1, Mrs. Jordan, 94, old age. Stephen Curtis, palsy and old age. May 25, Clarissa Small, 24, consumption; 27, child of Rufus Bartlett, jr., 6 months. June, Mr. Phinchas Whitney, 80, consumption; he had a leg amputated in 1824. July 8, Mr. Thomas Hill, 84; he was one of Burgoyne's men, and finally adopted the country he came to fight. Child of H. Pike, whooping-cough. July 26, George L. Smith, 15, consumption. Aug. 14, Joseph Stevens, 77, decline; he moved the first family into Rustfield; 30, child of C. Cobb, dysentery. Sept. 30, Mrs. Churchill, 50, fever. Oct. 15, child of William Churchill; 23, child of Ira Johnson, 14 months; 15, Mrs. M. Millett, 38, fever.

## 1831.

March 2, Edmund Merrill, 52, consumption; 11, child of B. B. Murray, 1. May 18, child of John Witt, 3 months. June 30, Otis S. Noyes, son of D. Noyes, 16, consumption. July 5, child of John M. Wilson, 6, dysentery. Sept. 17,



child of M. Smith, 1 month. Nov. 14, child of J. Shackley, 18 months, measles; 16, Simeon Herring, 23.

## 1 8 3 2.

March 20, child of Charles Cleaves, 5, scarlet fever; 23, child of same, 7, same disease; 28, child of same, 3, same disease. April 12, child of Dea. B. Herring, 4, same. Child of Mr. Rich, 5, same. Child of same, 3 months, same. April 13, son of Dea. B. Herring, 17, same; 17, child of Benjamin Peabody, jr., 3, same; 20, child of Mr. Rich, same; 21, Henry Herring, 13, same; 23, child of Robert Frost, 4, same. Child of Mr. Rich, 3, same. May 6, child of J. Holt, 2, same; 9, child of same, 4, same; 11, Mrs. Barrows, 27, fever; 19, child of Cyrus Cobb; 24, child of J. Andrews, 1, canker rash. June 11, child of Mr. Tucker, 2, lung fever; 19, child of William C. Whitney, 3, canker rash; 24, child of Gen. William Parsons, 5, lung fever. July 14, child of J. Hobbs, 3 months; 15, William Totherly, 48; 20, child of James Hill, 2, canker rash; 25, child of same, 12, same. Aug. 11, child of Reuben Hill, 1, same; 16, Mrs. Jere Henley, 35, consumption. Sept. 6, child of B. Barrows, 5, canker rash; 16, Algernon Cox, 6, same. Oct. 4, child of Dr. J. S. Millett, 1 month; 27, Mrs. John Gurney, 32. Nov. 15, Mrs. Frost, 78.

## 1 8 3 3.

Feb. 9, Jonas Stevens, 84, palsy; 24, Elizabeth Beal, 12, typhus fever; 27, Mrs. Joseph Rounds, consumption. April, child of E. Merrill, 6. July, child of A. Fuller, 5, canker rash. Aug. 25, David Stevens, 2 1-2, same. Sept. 28, child of J. Holt, same. Oct. 3, child of Mr. Hale. Dec. 16, child of J. Hobbs, 8.

## 1 8 3 4.

Jan. 5, Mrs. Robbins, 48, fever; 18, Mrs. Ephraim Briggs, dropsy; 24, Mrs. Twombly, fever. Feb. 1, child of Daniel Cummings, 1; 14, Eliza Fuller, consumption; 15, wife of William Frost, 41, fever; 18, child of same, 2 weeks. March

7, child of A. Fuller, 1. May 17, Charles L. Hobbs, 18, fever; 26, Capt. John Rust, 72, erysipelas; 29, David Gorham, 72, consumption. June 19, child of Henry Pike, 7. Sept. Jacob Parsons, 58, consumption. Nov. 22, Mrs. Nancy Cummings.

## 1835.

Feb. 4, Hannah Holt, wife of Uriah Holt, 46, consumption; 25, Mrs. Riggs, 19, same. March 19, wife of Silas Meriam, 55, same; 28, child of Benjamin Tucker, 6 months. April 22, David Whitcomb, 65, killed by logs rolling on him while at work. June 9, Mrs. Sally Smith, 37, consumption; 13, child of Hiram Millett, 10 months; 13, Elnira Hor, 18, consumption; 28, Mrs. Eunice Bartlett, 38, in a fit. July 11, Mrs. Gammon, 65, suddenly; 25, child of Elliot Smith, 10 months; 28, Mary Crockett, 20, cancer. Aug. 8, Sewall G. Ordway, 29, consumption; 27, Mrs. Joseph Morse, 25, same. Nov. 12, Mrs. Adaline A. Beal, 28, same. Child of William Brown, 3 months.

## 1836.

Jan. 16, child of J. Rounds, 9 months; 17, Louisa Cushman, 27, consumption. Feb. 5, Nathan Foster, senior, 72, found dead in his barn-yard. March 19, Zachariah Weston, 75, decline; 22, child of Andrew Mills, fever. April 4, Joseph Bradbury, 67, erysipelas; 22, child of Asa Thayer, 1 month; 29, child of H. C. Reed, 15 months. May 21, Mrs. Alexander Mills, 60, decline; 31, Martha Hobbs, 11, disease of the heart. July 30, Mrs. Mary Cushman, 28, dropsy. Aug. 1, Mrs. Anna French, 40, consumption; 3, Mrs. E. Hall, 60, same; 5, Mrs. John Case, 47, cancer; 11, child of Thomas Pool, cough. Sept. 28, wife of Thomas Chase, 28, consumption. Oct. 11, Elizabeth, wife of Benjamin Flint, 70, same; 21, wife of Stephen Pingree, senior, 84, same; 30, Mary Jane Upton, 28, same. Nov., Maj. Elijah Hall, 72, cancer. Dec. 20, Mrs. Daniel Knight, 74, consumption.

## 1837.

Jan. 8, Col. Amos Town, suddenly; 19, Nathan Foster, jr., 45, fever. Feb. 6, child of M. Lassell, 5, fever; 14, child of Asa Pool, quinsy. March 10, Sally, wife of David Noble, 30, spine complaint; 17, Sally Crockett, 30, dropsy. April 14, Jane Bodwell, 27, consumption. June 21, child of A. Fuller. July 4, Bradley Foster, 13, drowned in mill-pond in Greenwood; 20, child of Titus O. Brown, jr., 2 1-2, canker rash; 24, John Brown, 14, same. Aug. 14, child of Henry Pike, 18 months; 24, Mr. Carr, a stranger, 60, colic; 25, child of William Pingree, 6, canker rash; 29, Lorenzo D. Shackley, 24, consumption. Sept. 11, child of M. P. Smith, 23 months. Nov. 11, Ann J. Witherbee, 13, canker rash; 30, child of S. Merrill, 4, same. Dec. 5, S. Coffin, 24, consumption.

## 1838.

March 1, Mrs. Abigail Fuller, 72, influenza; 29, Martha M. Young, 11, fever; 30, child of L. Millett, 3, canker rash. April 3, Amos Upton, 96, old age; 19, child of Paul Twombly, 1. Child of Jabez Chubb. May 18, child of Dresser Stevens; 23, Cyrus Lord, 26, consumption; 30, Ephraim Barrows, 77, decline. July 15, Archelaus Fuller, 35, colic; 30, Dudley Pike, 73, decline. Aug. 9, child of Wm. Hall, 2 weeks; 16, child of Dr. L. Tripp, 16 months. Sept. 13, child of J. Greenleaf, 1 month; 25, child of E. Flint, 4. Mrs. William Frost, 44. Nov. 12, wife of William Hall, 32, consumption. Dec. 15, Jonathan Saunders, 62, insanity; he attempted to destroy his own life several years before, by cutting his throat, but did not cut quite deep enough, and most of the time afterwards was a raving maniac.

## 1839.

Jan. 21, Jacob Frost, 84, old age; he was wounded at Bunker Hill. Feb. 2, daughter of John Perry, 8, quinsy. Child of William Lord, 4 months. Samuel Andrews, 68, consumption. Child of William Twombly, 5, canker rash.

March 10, child of Amos Briggs, 9 months; 19, Chloe Cobb, 78, consumption; 20, child of Joel Millett, 10 months; 31, child of J. Stanley, 18 months. April 10, Mrs. John Millett, 78, consumption; 30, wife of Dudley Pike, 82, dropsy. John B. Ford, 38, consumption. May 4, Mrs. L. Houghton, 37, same. June 3, Amos Hobbs, 77, dropsy—one of the first settlers; 19, Sally Parsons, 21, palsy. July 16, child of Henry C. Reed, 5 months. Aug. 6, Sally S. Hale, 11, colic; 17, child of Wm. Beal, 5, dysentery. Child of Dr. L. Tripp, 1 month. Sept. 10, Mrs. Peter Buck, 80, consumption; 16, Mrs. Zebedee Perry, 81, dropsy. Child of Mrs. Town, 2, dysentery. Sept. 19, child of Henry W. Millett, 7 months. Child of J. Saunders, 15 months. Oct. 16, Edmund Frost, colic. Dec. 22, child of David P. Hanaford, 18 months; 29, Josiah Blanchard, 70; 30, M. A. McAllister, 16, dysentery.

## 1840.

Jan. 13, Mrs. Thomas Hill, 90, old age. March 21, Miss Pool, 18, colic; 4, Mrs. H. Giles, 66, consumption; 25, child of Simon Stevens, 7. April 24, John Needham, 80, palsy; 25, Mrs. Joel Frost, 64, apoplexy. May 18, Elizabeth Whitman, 42, dropsy. June 27, Mary A. Colins, 22, consumption. Sept. 22, child of Elliot Smith, 2; 3, Miss Stevens, 65, consumption. Lovejoy, 16, fever. Oct. 18, Mrs. Pool, 30, same; 21, Mrs. Thaddeus Brown, 64, dropsy—she was the widow of Capt. Ward Noyes. Nov. 6, David Woodman, 93; 7, Mrs. H. Shackley, 52, consumption; 30, Mrs. Eben Bancroft, 56, same. Dec. 4, John Ames, 9, drowned; 31, wife of Joshua Smith, 65, consumption.

## 1841.

Jan. 3, Joel Town, lung fever; 7, Henry L. Noyes, son of D. Noyes, 28, consumption. Feb. 25, Mrs. Chubb, fever. March 10, wife of Henry Noble, same; 21, child of M. P. Smith, 8 months. April 10, widow of Joseph Stevens, 83, hurt fatally by a fall—the first woman who came into Nor-

way ; 20, child of Moses Ames, 5 months. May 15, wife of M. P. Smith, 31, consumption ; 17, Willis Sampson, 65, cancer and dropsy. June 2, Josephine Young, 33, consumption ; 25, wife of Moses Ames, 33, same ; 26, Mr. Francis, 79, stoppage. Aug. 2, Diana Ames, 9, fits. Sept. 14, Nancy Jones, consumption ; 24, child of Dr. N. Grant, 1, dysentery. Oct. 21, child of E. Brown, 1 month ; 29, child of J. Turner, 2 months.

## 1842.

Feb. 12, Malvina Frank, 5 ; 18, child of W. Ramsdell, 4, canker rash ; 22, child of same, 2, same ; 24, child of Aaron Shackley, 4, same. March 2, Desire Tubbs, 19, consumption ; 5, child of Cephas Sampson, 2, canker rash ; 20, child of Seba Gammon, same ; 22, child of J. Richardson, scarlet fever. April 3, child of Amos Briggs, same ; 21, Mrs. Churchill, 76, consumption ; 24, child of H. W. Millett, 2 ; 29, child of Rev. T. J. Tenney, 15 months, canker rash ; 29, Jonathan Hall, 52, apoplexy. May 5, child of A. Thayer, 1, canker rash ; 12, child of A. A. Latham, 2 1-2, same ; 14, child of A. Thayer, 3, same ; 31, Sarah Maria Noyes, only daughter of D. Noyes, 18, consumption. June 4, child of Wm. Hall, 6, canker rash ; 15, Catherine Tubbs, 9, consumption. Child of Mr. McAllister, 7, canker rash. July 11, Widow Prince, 73, apoplexy. Aug. 11, Asa Pool, 50, consumption ; 14, Wm. Lord, Jr., 26, sciatica ; 31, Hannah Tubbs, 16, consumption. Sept. 20, John Pierce, son of Wm. Pierce, 24, canker rash ; 22, child of E. L. Knight. Wife of Henry Pike, 43, fever. Mrs. Thompson, 91, old age. Oct. 9, Maria P. K. Holt, daughter of Uriah Holt, 18, consumption ; 10, Lydia Frost, 21, dropsy ; 23 and 24, two children of Reuben Noble, canker rash ; 28, wife of Lee Mixer, 34, consumption. Benjamin Witt, 77, palsy—the first blacksmith. Nov. 6, Peter Buck, 94, old age—the first shoemaker ; 24, Mrs. Ruth Rust, 79, jaundice. Son of Daniel Town, 10, canker rash. Dec. 13, child of William Hall, 3, scalded. Mrs. Serena Frost, 31, fever.



## 1843.

Feb. 20, Richard Morse, 15, fever. William Hobbs, 63, consumption. Feb. 21, Dorcas Knight, 18, same; 22, child of J. Morse, jr., 3 weeks. April 4, Mrs. Bullen, 48, consumption; 6, Sarah Rust, 13, erysipelas; 10, Joel Frost, jr., 53, fever. Child of Mr. Smith, 2. May 2 and 3, Josephine, 2, Harriet D., 4, children of J. N. Hall, whooping cough; 17, child of Pleaman Holt; 26, Catharine G. Noyes, wife of H. L. Noyes, 32, consumption. Esther Herring, insanity. June 23, widow of Eben Cobb, 90, consumption. July 10, Mrs. Amelia Wilkins, dropsy. Sept. 21, Harriet Crockett, 19, fever; 23, child of John Howe, 14 months. Oct. 8, Ebenezer Hobbs, 2d, 17, from wounds received at a husking; 26, Joshua Smith, 73, consumption. Nov. 8, Catharine Morse, 11, fever. Dec. 1, John Millett, 76, influenza; 7, Mrs. Israel Pike, fever.

## 1844.

Jan. 8, wife of Samuel Ames, 85, influenza. Feb. 11, child of Silas Meriam, jr., 8 months. Child of John S. Shed, 14 months, scalded. Feb. 29, Samuel Cutter, 56, apoplexy. March 13, Mrs. Cushman, 47, lung fever; 4, Mrs. Herring, 83. April 16, Thomas J. Everett, 38, brain fever. May 16, child of Otis True, 1, scarletina. July 20, wife of Wm. Parsons, 83; 30, Silas Meriam, 76, palsy. Sept. 8, Mrs. Sarah Crockett, 77, dropsy; 13, Theodosia E. Stetson, 18, consumption. Oct. 7, Mrs. John Swift, 82; 25, Martha Whitmarsh, 27, consumption; 29, Ephraim Brown, 56. Nov. 2, wife of J. N. Hall, consumption.

## 1845.

Jan. 8, Dea. Wm. Parsons, 85, old age; 18, Mrs. Mary Hall, 57, consumption. Feb. 4, Benj. Herring, 84, old age; 23, Josiah Hill, 80, palsy; 28, Job Eastman, 95, old age. April 11, Harriet E. P. Goodnow, 14, diabetes; 12, wife of Pleaman Holt, 34, consumption. June 4, wife of Asa Hicks, 64, dropsy. July 6, Harriet W. Henley, 20, consumption;

20, Catharine Hobbs, 17, fever. Aug. 10, Mrs. Peter Town, 59, fever; 20, child of Samuel Foster, 1; 24, Mrs. Bradbury, 79, decline. Child of Mr. Jordan, 3. Sept. 15, Henry L. Crockett, 28, fever; 23, Mary M. Phelps, 21, same; 27, wife of J. Rounds, 27, consumption. Oct. 30, Joshua Crockett, 54, from obstruction of the swallow and stomach. Dec. 16, wife of Henry Noble, fever; 24, Daniel Watson, senior, 83, asthma and consumption; 29, John Frost, 77.

1 8 4 6.

Jan. 7, wife of L. Hathaway, consumption. Feb., Mrs. Mercy Hobbs, same. April 11, Daniel Young, 64, same. Child of Mrs. Everett, 2. April 27, Miss Tarbox, 80, jaundice. June 18, wife of H. Rust, 55, consumption; 28, Mrs. Anie Morse, 68, same. Aug. 4, Mrs. Sarah Rust, 83; 18, child of D. Cummings. Sept. 1, Mrs. Mercy Woodman, 75, consumption; 22, wife of J. B. Richardson, 29, and twin children. Oct. 6, wife of Lemuel Shed, 88, consumption; 22, Wilson Hill, 19, fever. Nov. 19, wife of S. Greenleaf, jr., 38; 27, Asa Danforth, jr., 5, fever. Dec. 16, Mrs. Hannah Hill, 45, fever.

1 8 4 7.

Jan. 17, Mrs. Lydia Tubbs, 61, consumption; 19, Mrs. Rebekah Frost, 80; she was the widow of Nathaniel Stevens, one of the early settlers, whose family was at one time distressed for want of food. Feb. 17, child of J. Bancroft, 20 months. March 31, Mrs. Sargeant, 22. April 15, Joseph York, jr., 19, hurt in a saw-mill; 16, Helen M. Noyes, 5, dropsy; 17, William Cox, 73, consumption; 20, widow of Amos Upton, consumption; 26, Mrs. Nancy Hobbs, 59, consumption. May 2, child of Cephas Sampson, 2, croup. June 3, son of Andrew Mills, 13, consumption; 13, Lucy Jane Perry, 20, same; 16, wife of John Frost, 72, fit: wife of Wm. Lord, 50, fever. July 3, Mrs. Mercy Bartlett, 80, consumption; 11, child of Lyman Bird, 2; 16, George E. Smith, 15; 23, wife of Jacob Parsons, suddenly; 27, Mrs.

Esther Jordan, 75, consumption. Sept. 3, wife of John March, 77, same; 10, child of Wm. C. Pierce, 2; 30, wife of Aaron Shackley, 47, cancer. Oct. 7, child of Wm. Brown, 6; 8, child of Amos F. Noyes, 3, fever; 24, wife of Col. A. Town, 67, fall, and dropsy. Nov. 18, Cyrus Cobb, 54, killed by a fall in his barn; 25, David Morse, 75, dropsy. Dec. 6, John Parsons, 85; 7, child of J. S. French, 20 months; 20, child of M. P. Smith, 9 months.

## 1 8 4 8.

Jan. 16, Caroline Pike; 29, Emily Chandler, 27, consumption. Feb. 1, Asa Barton, 54, same; 10, Matthias Smith, 42, found dead; 21, James Packard, 89, old age. March 5, daughter of Mr. Herriek, 14, dropsy; 27, Mrs. David Gorham, 80, consumption. April 20, Mrs. Merrill, 85. May 30, Jonathan G. Town, 28, brain fever. June 11, wife of Matthew Lassell, 53, consumption; 29, child of E. L. Knight, 4 1-2, fever. July 19, Rufus Bartlett, 87, old age; 25, Zephaniah Frost, 63; 29, Ann Lassell, 27, consumption. Sept. 4, Joseph Small, 74, same; 7, wife of Amos Hobbs, 89, old age—one of the first settlers; 16, John Case, 75, cancer. Oct. 2, Mrs. John Parsons, 80. Nov. 2, child of Mr. Rowe; 26, William Walton, 45, fever; 28, William Reed, the first post-master, 73, consumption. Dec. 29, Ellen Flint, 17, same.

## 1 8 4 9.

March 10, child of J. Morse, 10 weeks; 17, child of James Merrill, 2, whooping cough. Timothy Jordan, 82, old age. Child of Hiram Millett. April, Ezra Stevens, 40, fits; 25, Sophia L. Frost, 13. Susannah Tubbs, 90, *non compos mentis*. May 13, widow Ripley, 68, cancer; 26, child of A. P. Burnell, 14 months. June 9, child of Mr. Tucker; 21, Uriah Holt, Esq., 73, gravel. July 12, Charles Tubbs, 68, consumption; 21, widow Anthony Bennett, 70, same; 24, wife of Solomon Millett, 76, same; 27, Rebekah Everett, 14, croup; 31, child of Asa S. Pool, 14 months. Aug. 25,

Annie Shattuck, 2, dysentery; 21, Frederic Tucker, 2 1-2, same; 24, child of A. Smith, same; 25, child of J. H. Merrill, 2 1-4, same; 28, child of Mr. Stevens. Sept. 3, child of F. Manning, same; 4, Mrs. Ridlon, 50, same; 5, Mrs. Stevens, 31, same; 6, Gilbert Noble, 21, same; 10, child of E. Ames, 14 months, same; 11, child of P. L. Pike, 11 months, same; 12, child of J. Morse, 4, same; 15, child of E. P. Fitz, 19 months, same; 19, child of Ezra Shackley, 9 months, same; 20, child of J. H. Morse, 1, same; 21, child of Mr. Raymond, 9 months, same; 22, Mr. Woodbury, 65, same; 23, child of Thomas Higgins, same; 24, child of Mr. Holden, 1, same. Child of James Merrill, 3, same. Oct. 11, Mrs. Chloe Holt, 80, consumption; 13, Mrs. Mason, 50, dysentery. Child of Mr. Sargent, 2, same. Nov. 5, Aaron Chandler, 30, same.

## 1850.

Jan 12, wife of E. J. Pottle, 35, consumption; 15, wife of A. Thayer, 40, fever. Mrs. Clark, fever. William C. Brooks, 74, dysentery. Child of William Hall, same. Child of Daniel Hobbs, same. Daniel Davis, 24, consumption. Feb. 15, Jeremiah Hobbs, 64, same. Joel Stevens, 95, old age. Wife of G. W. Seaverns, 25, consumption. Josiah Hill, 30, same. May, Michael Welsh, 9, scrofula. Harriet N. Noyes, 30, consumption. Harriet B. Morse. Child of Reuben Noble. July 20, Jonathan Woodman, 78, sudden. Child of A. Smith, 13. July 30, wife of Jonathan Pottle, 82. Aug. 3, wife of James Crockett, 59, diarrhœa; 10, Wm. Churchill, 54, consumption; 12, David Woodman Bartlett, 19, brain fever. Child of J. Hannaford, J, dysentery. Mrs. Brown, 70, consumption. Aug. 18, child of Ephraim H. Brown, 2, dysentery; 24, daughter of John Bird, 19, brain fever. Child of Edmund Merrill, 2. Sept. 3, daughter of Sewall Crockett, 21, fever; 11, child of Charles Parsons, 8, same; 22, Eli Grover, 34, same; 25, child of Henry Small, 14 months. Oct. 5, wife of L. Hathaway, 34,

consumption ; 6, child of William Cox, 4 months ; 10, wife of Simeon Walton, 72, fever ; 13, child of M. P. Smith, 18 months ; 23, William Beal, 81, old age ; 28, Eunice Bancroft, 28, consumption. Nov. 3, wife of Sewall Crockett, 50, fever ; 14, wife of S. S. Hall, 30, consumption. Child of J. Greenleaf, 8 weeks. Nov. 24, wife of D. Pottle, 44, consumption. Child of Wm. C. Pierce, 7, dysentery. Dec. 7, child of A. T. Murphy, 1, scalded ; 30, Ansel Ross, 30, consumption. Four children died in the north part of the town ; names unknown.

## 1 8 5 1.

Jan. 2, daughter of Horsley Shed, 7, canker rash ; 17, Hannah Jordan, 76 ; 15, child of Mr. Gelderman, 1 ; 25, Betsey Witt, 48, consumption. April, Mrs. Forbes, 70, palsy ; 21, Lois T. Cobb, 15, consumption. May 22, Ann M. Woodbridge, 19, same ; 25, Levi Shed, 55, same. June, daughter of M. Parsons, 15, same ; 17, Daniel Watson, 50, same ; 25, wife of Samuel Foster, same. July 14, child of J. B. Stuart, 8 months ; 26, James Foster, 6, fever. Aug. 4, child of T. J. Needham, 4, canker rash ; 4, Mrs. Benjamin Jordan, 60, consumption ; 23, Mrs. William Frost, 48, same ; 27, child of Rev. E. F. Quinby, 4, croup. Child of Lewis Shackley, 3 weeks. Sept. 2, Mrs. Wentworth, 72, jaundice ; 10, child of W. W. Hobbs, 4, cholera morbus ; 10, wife of H. W. Strong, 37, consumption ; 18, wife of William Frost, 3d, 28, same. Oct. 7, child of H. W. Strong, 5 months ; 24, Abigail Parsons, 54, fits ; 30, wife of Titus O. Brown, 82, congestion of the lungs. Nov. 4, wife of Daniel Holt, 68, consumption ; 24, child of Clark Knight, 4. Dec. 25, child of Mahalon Crockett.

## 1 8 5 2.

Jan. 4, child of Charles Walton, 5, croup ; 14, Elizabeth Cobb, 20, consumption. John Richardson, 80, same. Jan. 27, H. McIntire, 83, dropsy ; 28, Widow Ellis, 82, consumption ; 29, child of Reuben Noble, 5, canker rash. Feb. 2,



A. Dunham, 46, decline. March 1, I. Merrill, 32, consumption; 6, Mrs. Frances Chandler, 58, stoppage; 8, Mrs. Sarah Farwell, 63, consumption; 18, Samuel Ames, 93, palsy; 28, Nancy Morse, 8. April 9, Nathaniel Millett, 80, dropsy and apoplexy. Ellen F., 7, 22, Rebecca G., 1 5-6, daughters of Dr. Jesse Howe, both congestion of the lungs. May 11, Daniel Witt, 24, killed on railroad. June 15, Mrs. Mary Frost, 68, consumption. William K. Emery, 54, same. July 12, wife of John Bird, 76, same; 21, Clara Sophia, daughter of Gen. William Parsons, 17, fever; 10, wife of A. A. Latham, 36; 24, wife of Daniel Herring, dropsy; 29, Gen. William Parsons, 66, fever. Aug. 3, wife of William B. Upton, 24, consumption; 24, wife of Martin Stetson, palsy; 26, Rev. Edwin F. Quinby, just from California, fever. Sept. 29, wife of Otis True, 31, consumption. Oct. 11, William B. Upton, stoppage of stomach; 19, wife of Benjamin Rowe, 82, dropsy; 25, Ebenezer Bancroft, jr., fever. Wife of John Witt.



## PATRONS.

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As a grateful acknowledgment of the liberal patronage bestowed on the preceding work by the citizens of the town of Norway, and by many gentlemen of other towns, the writer cheerfully embraces the opportunity of publishing a list of its patrons at the close of the book, believing that it will be gratifying to future generations to look back, and see the liberality displayed for the purpose of preserving from oblivion the memories and names of those who have patiently and perseveringly labored to build up the town to its present prosperous condition, from what was formerly a howling wilderness, and only the abode of savage beasts, and more savage men.

The reader will probably see, and if not, may plainly understand, that the writer has purposely omitted saying anything about political parties of any description, or any of the prevailing isms of the present day; as he thinks there will be enough of the acrimony and bitterness of party strife go down to future generations without making a book record for its preservation. Neither does he intend to hide himself behind the *oft-resorted-to-screen* of belonging to no party, or sect; for his political course has always been distinctly marked, and known, and probably will continue the same, until he sees a sufficient reason for changing his opinion. The present age is an age of progress, and (he hopes) of improvement, in the diffusion of knowledge, and in the amelioration of the condition of the human family; and time only

will develop whether the conflicting exertions of the various parties and organizations will ultimately tend to promote the prosperity and happiness, first of our own nation, and then of the whole human family. This is a momentous question, the consideration of which ought to have a large place in the mind of every considerate and candid person.

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William Frost, jr.,	1	Rodolphus Young,	1
John S. Shed,	1	Dudley Woodbridge,	1
Dudley B. Holt,	1	Thos. Judkins, Greenwood,	1
Simeon Noble,	1	Brackett Marston,	1
David B. Crockett,	1	Nathaniel Pike,	1
Horsley Shed,	1	Ethiel Stevens, Greenwood,	1
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Benj. Marston, “	1	James N. Hall,	1
Albion Buck,	1	Henry R. Webber, Oxford,	1
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Jonathan Pottle,	1	Henry Merrill,	1
George W. Parsons,	1	John Bancroft,	1
William Hall, 2d,	1	Sumner Frost,	1
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Hiram Millett,	1	John Coffin,	1
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William Frost,	1	Amos Upton,	1
Zachary Carey,	1	William C. Pierce,	1
John Frost,	1	Enoch Holt,	1
Samuel Lord,	1	Jacob Herrick,	1
George W. Everett,	1	Rollin Town,	1
Alpha B. Everett,	1	Jonathan Swift,	1
Wilson Hill,	1	John Whitmarsh,	1
Osgood Perry,	1	Charles Frost,	1
Henry Noble,	1	William Frost, 4th,	1
William W. D. S. Millett,	1	Elijah Jordan,	1
Jonathan Whitehouse,	1	Nathaniel S. Frost,	1
Thomas Hill,	1	Silas Meriam,	1
Benjamin Tucker, jr.,	1	Daniel Hobbs,	1
Alanson B. Watson,	1	Bela Noyes,	1
Nathaniel G. Bacon,	1	Noah O. Stevens,	1
Charles Jackson,	1	David Wilkins,	1
Charles L. Francis,	1	Jacob Tubbs,	1

William Knight,	1	S. H. Houghton, Greenwood,	1
William R. Crockett,	1	Elias H. Bemis,	1
Nathan Morse,	1	Samuel A. Webber, Oxford,	1
Ephraim S. Crockett,	1	Ich. B. Verrill, Greenwood,	1
Joseph G. Penley,	1	Alexander Crooker, Minot,	1
Alanson M. Dunham,	1	William S. Allen, Oxford,	1
William P. Richardson,	1	William Young,	1
Thomas H. Richardson,	1	William Gallison, Paris,	1
Joseph F. Crockett,	1	William K. Kimball, “	1
Sewall J. Crockett,	1	Joshua B. Crockett,	1
Joseph York,	1	Alva B. Davis,	1
David M. Brown,	1	William W. Hobbs,	1
John Richardson,	1	Cornelius W. Hobbs,	1
Moses Parsons,	1	Reuben Favor, Paris,	1
Hiram Lovejoy,	1	John W. Noble, Waterford,	1
Levi Millett,	1	Hon. E. Gerry, “	1
Jared M. Buck,	1	Benjamin G. Holt,	1
John H. Millett,	1	Henry H. Hobbs,	1
Thomas Briggs,	1	Henry Houghton,	1
Samuel S. Millett,	1	Dr. J. S. Millett,	2
Joseph F. Merrill, Oxford,	1	David F. Noyes,	1
Daniel Cummings,	1	Bezaleel A. Cushman,	1
Calvin Richardson,	1	Rev. H. W. Strong,	1
Benjamin Witt,	1	Levi T. Boothby, Paris,	1
Mrs. Austin Buck,	1	George J. Ordway, Portland,	2
Cha's Young, jr. Greenwood,	1	Thomas J. Cox, Augusta,	1
Daniel Green,	1	Benjamin Crockett, Oxford,	1
Levi Frank,	1	Dr. Thos. Roberts, Rumford,	1
James C. Bennett,	1	John Parsons, Paris,	1
Thomas R. Lovejoy,	1	Ward Noyes, Portland,	1
Lemuel Lovejoy,	1	Bowers Barton, Boston,	1
John B. Brown, Portland,	1	Ajalon Godwin, Rumford,	1
Robert Noyes,	1	John Dennett, Paris,	1
David S. Andrews, Otisfield,	1	Wm. H. Sweetser, Boston,	1
Geo. W. Patch, Greenwood,	1	G. G. Waterhouse, Portland,	1

Alva Hobbs, Greenwood,	1	Sylvanus Cobb, jr.,	1
Cha's H. Crocker, "	1	Fred. Coburn, Greenwood,	1
John Noyes, "	1	Malbory Brown, Waterford,	1
Simon Noble,	1	Daniel Chaplin, "	1
Mrs. Rebekah Ames,	1	N. Abbott, 2d, Andover, Ms.	1
Asa S. Pool, Portland,	1	Thomas Crocker, Paris,	1
R. R. Robinson, "	2	Thomas Ellis,	1
Increase Robinson, Skow'g'n	1	George W. Millett,	6
Samuel Cobb,	1	Charles F. Parkhurst,	6

## ERRATA.

PAGE 13, bottom line, for "cataract" read precipice.

" 23, 15th line from bottom, for "Middelton" read Middleton.

" 25, 16th " " " "boughgt" read bought.

" 27, 5th line from top, for "Februry" read February.

" 28, 12th " " " "to far" read too far.

" 59, bottom line, for "stereotpyed" read stereotyped.

" 79, 14th line from top, for "came" read come.

" 97, 9th " " " "the the" read the.

" 125, 18th " " " "Greenwood" read Greenwood.

" 129, bottom line, for "1741" read \$1741.

" 146, 2d line from bottom, for "brn" read barn.

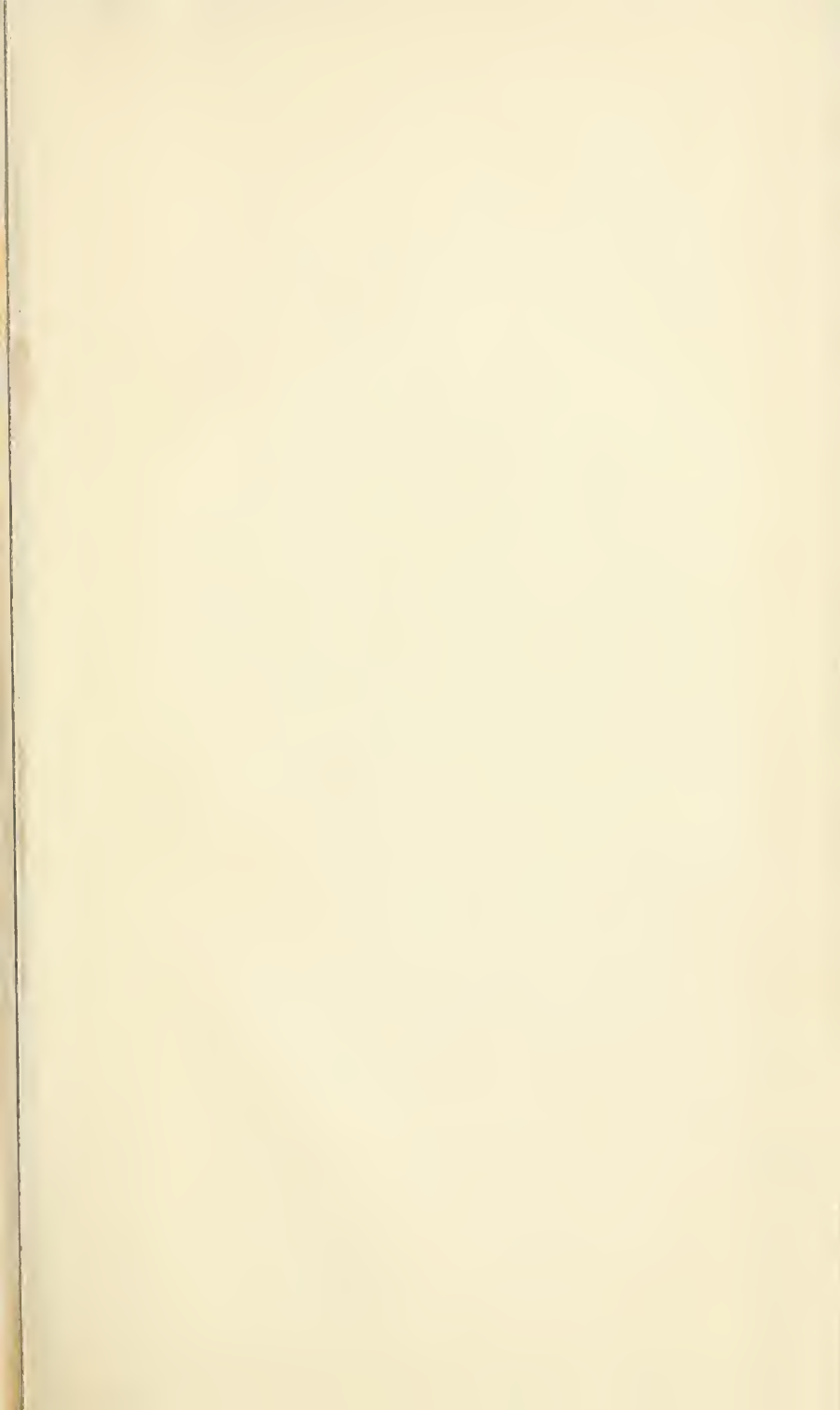
" 158, 2d " " " "consequence" read consequence.

" 205, 7th " " " "J, dysen-" read 2, dysen-.

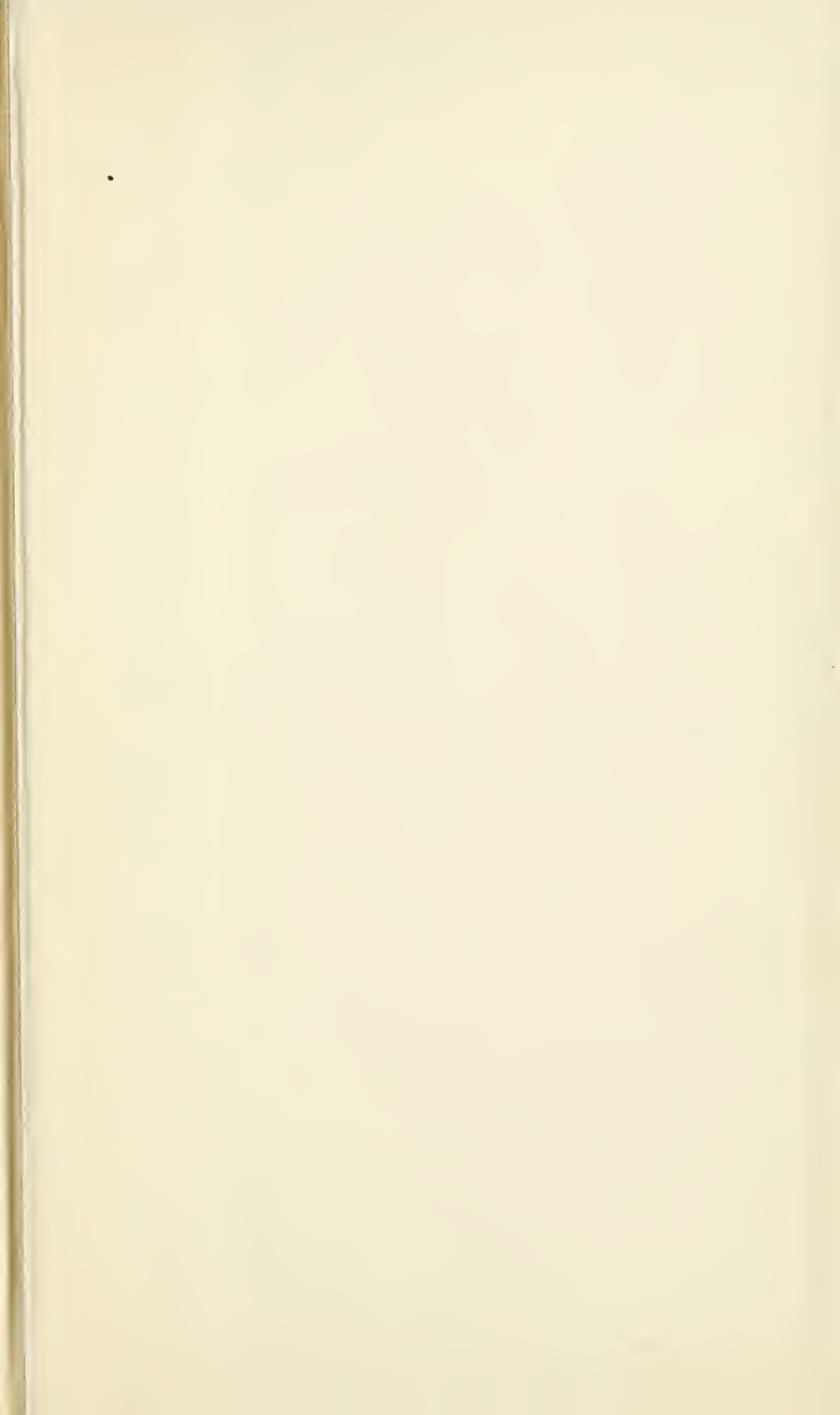
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The printer regrets that these typographical errors were not detected until an hour too late for their correction. They are as mortifying to his eye as they can be odious to that of the reader. But, as the author says in his preface of his own errors, "instead of wondering at a few mistakes, it should be a greater wonder that there are not more;" for, if the compositor has not had many "irons in the fire," he has had perplexities of which readers can not know. In the revised and enlarged edition of 1952, the errors, doubtless, will be expunged.

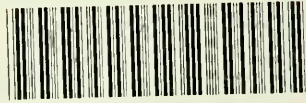








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